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REPORTAGE ON U.S. MISSILE DEPLOYMENT ISSUE

Euromissiles Delay Only Interim Solution

LD241826 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1630 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, March 24 (TANJUG) -- The only interim solution in the Geneva negotiations which the Soviet Union would accept would be "continuation of the negotiations simultaneously with a postponement of the deployment of Euro-missiles".

This Soviet position which hinges on U.S. President Reagan giving up the zero option and offering a kind of medium option was published by the weekly MOSKOVSKIE NOVOSTI on Thursday.

The comment is the most specific outline so far of the Soviet position in the light of the complete standstill in the Geneva negotiations on nuclear arms limitations in Europe.

Moscow has called upon West European leaders to ask the United States to continue the negotiations, while postponing the announced deployment of missiles in Western Europe.

Deployment Incongruous With Negotiations

AU241447 East Berlin NATIONAL-ZEITUNG in German 23 Mar 83 pp 1-2

[APN commentary by Igor Sinitsin: "Umbrella of the Gentleman?" -- "Exclusive from Moscow"]

[Text] In the West the discussion on what the American intermediate-range nuclear missiles, which are to be deployed in the FRG and four other NATO countries, actually represent is getting livelier and livelier. The story-tellers abroad and on the European NATO staffs invent the myth that "Pershing II" and "cruise missiles" are the reliable "umbrella" of Uncle Sam for grandma Europe against the lie of "the threat of the East." The truth is that Washington is about to transform the territory of its NATO allies into a bridgehead from where it can make a first strike against the countries of the Warsaw Pact with its "war hatchets," that is, the "Tomahawk" "Pershing II" and others.

The White House does not at all hide its aggressive intentions. Ronald Reagan threatened: "May our enemy go to sleep every night with the fear that we will use the nuclear weapon." His doctrine of a "limited" nuclear war, which is hostile to life, also terrifies millions of people in the NATO countries.

At the other end of the pole there are our views. The Soviet Union is in favor of eliminating nuclear arms -- both intermediate-range and tactical weapons -- in general. The truth about the peace-loving views of the USSR and the fraternal socialist countries is getting through to Western Europe more and more strongly, as well as the truth about the situation at the Geneva negotiations between the USSR and the United States. Andrey Gromyko answered the question of a PRAVDA correspondent by saying that in American and NATO propaganda the impression is given that the situation at the negotiations is not bad at all. However, in reality, no progress toward realism can be noted in the views of the American side. "Finally," the Soviet foreign minister stated, "everything winds up at the same starting position of implementing the NATO plan in one way or another, which, after all, means the deployment of new American missiles in Western Europe."

Like before NATO is aiming at achieving military superiority in Europe. It wants to make people get used to the idea that the deployment of new American missiles allegedly is not in contravention of the target of the negotiations presently taking place in Geneva, as though the deployment of missiles could take place and the negotiations continue as if nothing had happened.

In reality, however, the appearance of the new American missiles in Western Europe would bring about a qualitatively new situation. The American side would practically destroy the basis of the negotiations on nuclear weapons. This knowledge is to help people join the ranks of those who are actively supporting peace and disarmament, thus influencing the scheme of things against a destructive nuclear war.

'Preparatory to First Strike'

NC241925 Paris AFP in English 1906 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva, March 24 (AFP) -- Socialist countries consider a new deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe as "preparatory to a first nuclear strike aimed at the USSR and Warsaw Pact countries," the Soviet Union told a United Nations Disarmament Commission here today.

"There is no doubt that the implementation of the NATO plan will provoke an appropriate reaction by the socialist countries," said Soviet delegate Viktor Israelyan.

He referred to the Atlantic alliance plan by which American cruise and Pershing II missiles would be deployed in Western Europe if U.S.-Soviet arms reduction talks here do not produce results by the end of the year.

USSR Will Take Countermeasures

LD231636 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] At a session of NATO's Planning Group in Vilamoura, Portugal, the American Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has been insisting on the American proposals concerning nuclear weapons in Europe, proposals absolutely unrealistic and unacceptable for the Soviet Union. Here is comment by Vladimir Kazanskiy of the North American service in Radio Moscow:

To all intents and purposes Washington is out to deadlock the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation and reduction in Europe and to base American medium-range missiles in Europe, no matter what. This means adding hundreds of warheads to the American nuclear potential targeted against the USSR, with its more than 9,000 nuclear charges deployed in all parts of the strategic triad [as heard] of the United States. The new charges are to be deployed at Pershing II and Tomahawk cruise missiles due to be stationed in a number of West European countries. The materialization of these plans might have pregnant consequences, not only for Europe but for America as well. But the White House does not seem to care.

Yielding to public pressure, Washington has entered into the Geneva talks on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe. These talks have been going on for 1 and 1/2 years now but have made no real progress because of the American intransigence. In point of fact, the American side is hoodwinking the public. Kenneth Adelman, the new director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and so far not endorsed by the Senate, has specified the essence of the American approach. He said the arms limitation talks are but a subterfuge to which the American leadership had to resort in order to calm the American people and the European allies.

The talks which the United States is conducting with the Soviet Union on intermediate-range missiles limitation are needed, according to the Reagan administration, to win time to deploy new American missiles in Europe as of the end of 1983. One may just as well recall that the Soviet side has seriously warned to the effect that this country cannot stand idly by confronted by the threat to its security as a result of deployment of American missiles. If Pershings and cruise missiles are deployed, the Soviet Union will have to take countermeasures to safeguard its own security and the security of its allies.

As was pointed out at the highest level, the Soviet Union will face up to the necessity of placing the territory of the United States into an adequate or analogous position concurrently with steps to offset new American missiles in Western Europe. No one should harbor any doubts concerning these Soviet warnings. It is not difficult to understand that by stationing nearly 600 additional nuclear missiles in Western Europe, the United States will precipitate a new round in the nuclear arms race. It will bring the world to a more dangerous level of nuclear confrontation. It is clear that this turnabout will not promote either the security of the United States or that of other countries.

Meanwhile, there exists another better way for lowering the missile nuclear [word indistinct]. This way is through an honest agreement taking into consideration the interests of both sides. It is towards this agreement that the Soviet proposal is meant in accordance with which the Soviet Union is prepared to have as many intermediate-range missiles in Europe as NATO has there. The Soviet Union offers parity both for missiles and for nuclear-carrying aricraft in Europe and at a much lower level than at present. This makes it possible to reach an agreement at the Geneva talks predicated on the principles of equality and equal security. The United States have a no less security stake in the Geneva talks as the Soviet Union and other European countries.

ANALYST REITERATES USSR DISARMAMENT STANCE

LD231733 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 23 TASS -- TASS news analyst Anatoliy Krasikov writes:

The notorious "zero option" is unacceptable to the Soviet Union and this is not because it provides for the dismantling of all Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles aimed at NATO targets in West Europe. The USSR is prepared to give up all or (as an alternative) a part of these missiles which were installed to strike a retaliatory blow in the event of an American-NATO aggression. But it will not agree to any options under which the North Atlantic alliance, as is happening today, would ignore the principle of equality and equal security.

The Soviet people cannot and do not want to pretend that hundreds of American planes based in Europe and on aircraft carriers off the European shores and carrying nuclear weapons intended for strikes against the territory of the USSR and those of its allies, are nothing more than children's toys. Hence the Soviet proposal for establishing equality not only in respect of missiles but also nuclear-weapon-carrier planes.

Similarly, the Soviet people cannot and do not want to pretend that British and French missiles and bombers carrying nuclear weapons, also intended for strikes against the territory of the USSR and of its allies, are nothing more than children's toys. Hence the Soviet proposal for these armaments to be taken into account in the general estimation of the alignment of forces of the two sides.

Is a compromise between the present positions of the USSR and NATO on the question of medium-range nuclear means in Europe possible under these conditions? Yes, it is since the Soviet Union agrees to cut the overall number of its missiles and planes, carriers of medium-range nuclear weapons to any level, even down to zero. Only one thing is required for this, namely, that the United States and its NATO allies should abandon their present, dishonest and equal security of the sides, - a principle without which no agreement will be achieved.

By the way, in the opinion of the Soviet public the present U.S. Administration, far from seeking such agreement, is doing everything it can to thwart the efforts to achieve it. But this is a different question.

COMMENTARY VIEWS 'CHEAP RUSE' OF NATO MEETING

LD250023 Moscow TASS in English 1933 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- In a communique on the meeting of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group in Vilamoura, defence ministers of the NATO countries confirmed the decision that had been adopted earlier to start deploying new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe since next December unless...important results are achieved in Geneva.

This reveals again Washington's dangerous approach to the question of the deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, IZVESTIYA's political news analyst Vikentiy Matveyev writes in today's issue of the newspaper. Recourse was made to the logic that is easy to see through: by artificially and arbitrarily setting the deadline for the conclusion of the talks in Geneva, the news analyst writes, Washington can drag out the talks indefinitely so as to point to the lack of agreement by the end of the year. Meanwhile no deadline has been set on NATO's dual decision.

In this case the "calls" of Washington's partners in NATO to show "flexibility", to seek "compromise" proved to be nothing but empty verbiage.

This conclusion is confirmed also by the speech that President Reagan delivered on March 22 [as received]. In that speech he lauded again his "zero option" and said that the United States will start deploying new nuclear missiles later in the year.

The reference to "concrete results" of the Geneva talks is, as earlier, a cheap ruse of those who are blocking the road to the attainment of agreement at the talks, the commentary says. For even many bourgeois leaders in Western Europe who have been supporting official Washington now recognize that the notorious "zero option" cannot serve as an object of serious discussions. It is remarkable that even some of Weinberger's partners at the conference in Vilamoura had to recognize this, however mutely.

But things did not go any further. The Pentagon's chief did not show in any way Washington's readiness to answer in a business way the Soviet Union's concrete proposals made for the purposes of achieving speedy agreement in Geneva. Hence, the United States obstructionist line dooms the Geneva talks to a deadlock, as before. Then, where does the "flexibility" and the "quest for a compromise" come in? What is at hand is the arrogant negativism of those who are obsessed with militaristic ambitions, IZVESTIYA's news analyst writes.

Further Comment on Session

LD250415 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Viktor Tanin commentary]

[Text] NATO's Nuclear Planning Group has held a session in Vilamoura, a seaside resort in Portugal, attended by the defense ministers of the Atlantic alliance. The discussions were held in the strictest of secrecy. Nevertheless, news filtered out to the Western press that, under pressure from American representatives, the question of the deployment of Pershing II's and Tomahawks in several West European countries was once again on the agenda. But this is not all. According to the press, the Pentagon's plans to install U.S. neutron and chemical weapons on European soil were mentioned at the sessions. Moreover, there was also the question of deploying new types of tactical missiles with nuclear warheads on the territories of the U.S. allies.

Therefore, it is clear that the participants in the Vilamoura meeting had every reason to keep their deliberations secret. The fact is that the implementation of the Pentagon's strategy will create a fatal threat to the European Continent, which across the ocean is considered to be a battlefield in a limited or protracted nuclear war.

It is significant that a few days before the meeting the NATO Nuclear Planning Group had organized staff exercises under the codename Wintex. During these exercises a situation was simulated whereby the territory of the FRG became an arena of offensive and counteroffensive combat. It has been envisaged that between the initial and the final stages of a war, the FRG would be wiped from the face of the earth. It so happens that the destiny of one of the largest West European countries has been decided in advance by the tactics of the U.S. Army.

The West Europeans do not wish their lives and the future of Europe to be sacrificed in the interest of militaristic and adventurous amateurs on the banks of the Potomac. The awareness of the danger which is already hovering on the porch of every house in Europe is mobilizing millions of men in the struggle against the Pentagon's nuclear plans. The NATO countries which Washington intends to transform into huge launching pads for its new nuclear missiles have to take into account the frame of mind of public opinion.

Recently the Governments of the FRG, Italy, Great Britain and the Netherlands led the Reagan administration to adopt a more flexible and realistic attitude at the Soviet-American Geneva negotiations on the limitation of armaments in Europe. According to many observers, this appeal stems from the fear of the further development of the antiwar movement. It is also dictated by the understanding of the fact that West European opinion has seen through the zero option ploy which Washington is employing in order to be able to avoid any arrangement whatsoever. The White House propaganda campaign has failed to cover up this tactic.

Any sensible person understands today that by proposing this unacceptable solution to the Soviet Union, Washington is only pursuing one objective: to lead the Geneva talks into a deadlock and under this pretext deploy Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe. As THE NEW YORK TIMES recently acknowledged, President Reagan only accepted negotiations in order to gain time to deploy new U.S. ground-based missiles in Europe. With the haughtiness of a superpower, Washington turned a blind eye to [words indistinct] to at least put an appearance of common sense at the Geneva talks. Reagan has limited himself to a few vague allusions to the possibility of interim solutions envisaging under such and such a form the deployment of new U.S. missiles. Therefore, it is not a matter of chance if at the Vilamoura meeting the head of the Pentagon, Caspar Weinberger, took a peremptory tone to obtain from his Atlantic partners confirmation of the well-known decision on the modernization of NATO's armies and tried to impose on them new militaristic programs for Western Europe.

This bellicose line is accompanied by a loud demagogical campaign. In an attempt to soften the antiwar movements, Washington recently started saying that the deployment of new U.S. missiles will not hamper the Geneva negotiations. These will carry on, it claims, as if nothing had happened. What a mistake! Indeed, as Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko stressed, this would create a qualitatively different situation. By deploying new missiles, the Americans would jeopardize the basis of the talks on nuclear arms. It is also obvious that the new American missiles could never compel the Soviet Union to accept unilateral disarmament. Our country will give an appropriate and efficient response to the increase of the threat to its security and that of its allies. The Soviet Union is trying to avoid such a course of events. It is ready not to have one missile or one aircraft more than NATO in Europe. It is still time to reach an agreement. 1983 must not become a fatal year in the history of Europe.

IMPORTANCE OF ARMS TALKS WITH U.S. QUESTIONED

WA171630 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 8, 22 Feb 83 (Signed to Press 21 Feb 83) p 26

[Readers' letter followed by unattributed response under the rubric "Question--Answer"]

[Text] From newspaper reports it is known that, in the negotiations on the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms, the United States occupies a nonconstructive position, trying to force on the USSR agreements which would bring about changes in the balance of forces in favor of imperialism. Furthermore, they are "stalling for time" and openly trying to use the very fact of the negotiations to cool down the anti-military demonstrations in Europe and the United States and to quiet public opinion.

In such a situation, would it not be better for the Soviet Union to break off the negotiations and wait for a realistically thinking administration to come to power in the United States, and then to continue them?

[Signed] T. Kozlovskaya, Moscow Oblast; N. Chernousov, Baku; and others

The answer to this question arises from the very nature of our peace-loving policy. We believe that negotiations are the only way to resolve controversial questions. Today the understanding is growing stronger that dialogue between the USSR and the United States, and between the socialist and capitalist countries, is necessary. Dialogue, however, is not an end in itself.

In any negotiations, our country uses all -- even the smallest -- possibilities to achieve a just solution to the questions under discussion. As Comrade Yu. V. Andropov said in his answers to the questions of the American political observer J. Kingsbury-Smith, the Soviet side thinks that the differences in positions of the USSR and U.S. Governments can be decreased enough to create conditions for the working out of a compromise agreement, since "there are solutions to the questions under discussion which will harm the interests of neither side and which will lead to radical reductions in armaments on both sides -- to the great benefit of the common peace and security."

But achieving agreement is possible only in the course of negotiations. Therefore it is necessary to keep in mind not only the formal side of the question, but also its essence. It is precisely in the course of negotiations that the sides uphold the conceptions they have put forth, making arguments in their defense, explain their points of view, criticize each other's positions, and search for mutually acceptable compromise variants. And no matter how difficult negotiations are, given good will, agreements are possible.

"But does the United States have good will?" you ask. Today, obviously, no. "Will it have good will tomorrow?" Of course, one cannot give guarantees. But one must keep in mind that, although the negotiations are going on behind closed doors, they are not isolated from what is going on in the world. And the world is dynamic; neither the governments of the NATO countries nor the White House can avoid taking account of the decisively expressed will of the peoples for peace and disarmament.

Take, for example, the attitude of the present U.S. Administration to the idea of strategic arms limitations and reduction talks with the Soviet Union. At the beginning of his term, President Reagan declared that the United States would enter no negotiations at all with the USSR until it changed its foreign policy. And what happened? Washington entered negotiations against its will. This is the result of the active peace offensive by the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries, and of their growing economic and military might, which are sufficient to restrain an aggressor; it is also the result of the activation of an anti-military movement of unprecedented scope which has literally swept over Europe and the United States.

The Soviet is doing everything that depends on it to secure a successful conclusion to the negotiations. But it does not follow from this that it will permit the United States to speculate on the negotiations to delude international public opinion, or to use them as a lever for political pressure or as a screen to hide the arms and aggressive plans.

WESTERN RESPONSE TO PACT MBFR OFFER URGED

LD241223 Moscow TASS in English 1148 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Vienna March 24 TASS -- Today's plenary session of the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe was addressed by the head of a delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic T. Lorinc. A representative of the Hungarian delegation said at a press conference here that Lorinc had pointed out that Hungary, as a country which participated in the talks with a special status, fully supported the new initiatives put forward by the socialist states -- direct participants in the talks. He said that these proposals which envisage the withdrawal of certain contingents of Soviet and American troops on the basis of mutual example with the subsequent freezing of the levels of armed forces of all the direct participants in the Vienna forum, as well as further major reductions of armed forces and armaments in central Europe are fully in accord with the need to solve the pressing problem of bringing down the level of dangerous confrontation in the centre of Europe. The Hungarian People's Republic is also vitally interested in this.

The Hungarian delegate also stressed that now Western participants in the talks should display political will and realistic approach and respond in a constructive way to the initiative put forward by the Warsaw Treaty member states.

PLENARY INF, START SESSIONS HELD IN GENEVA

22 Mar INF Meeting

LD221308 Moscow TASS in English 1233 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 22 TASS -- The delegations from the Soviet Union and the United States at the talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe held a plenary meeting here today.

22 Mar START Session

LD221640 Moscow TASS in English 1541 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 22 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the delegations of the USSR and the USA at the talks on strategic arms limitation and reduction was held here today.

24 Mar INF Meeting

LD241222 Moscow TASS in English 1159 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 24 TASS -- A plenary session of the Soviet and U.S. delegations at the talks on the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe was held here today.

24 Mar START Meeting

LD241511 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Geneva March 24 TASS -- The delegations from the Soviet Union and the United States at the talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic armaments held a plenary meeting here today.

USSR INITIATIVE AT UN ARMS TALKS LAUDED

LD250917 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA today described the Soviet Union's proposal at the session of the Geneva Committee on Disarmament for conducting talks on the problem of ensuring a safe development of the nuclear power industry and drawing up a corresponding international agreement as an initiative designed to enhance peace, put a cap on the senseless and perilous arms race and ameliorate the international situation.

The elaboration of this agreement, the daily emphasised, will be an important measure, which "will tie the hands of the aggressive, adventure-seeking forces of every hue." "Isn't it for this reason that, as observers in Geneva note, the representatives of the United States and its closest NATO allies have begun to slow down the committee's work on this issue in every way?," the paper queried.

Less than two years ago, PRAVDA recalled, Israeli aircraft staged a terrorist bombing raid against a nuclear research centre in Iraq. That aggressive act was seen as an attack on the International Atomic Energy Agency's safeguard's regime, which forms the basis of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Last fall, the comment said, the Soviet Union tabled for consideration by the 37th U.N. General Assembly session as a matter of urgency a proposal for multiplying efforts to remove the threat of nuclear war and ensure a safe development of the nuclear power industry. The USSR proposed that the United Nations should declare that the destruction of peaceful nuclear facilities, including that by conventional weapons, is tantamount to an attack with the use of nuclear weapons.

"In other words," the newspaper said, if committed, "this act of aggression would be equated with those actions, which the United Nations has described as a grave crime against humanity."

CORRECTION TO REAGAN 23 MAR TELEVISION SPEECH

Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 1230 GMT on 24 March transmits a "corrected version" of its report on President Reagan's television speech. The "corrected version" adds a new paragraph between paragraphs one and two of the item published under the subhead "Further Review, Criticism," in the 24 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT on page AA 3, as follows:

He arbitrarily omitted individual kinds of armament from the total equation of military might between East and West, and resorted to obvious juggling with and hushing-up of generally known facts. The President asserted that in terms of medium-range warheads in Europe, the Soviet Union supposedly has a superiority over the United States of 1,300 to zero. However, the whole world knows that the United States has many hundreds of medium-range nuclear weapons carriers in West Europe, each armed with several nuclear warheads. In addition, the closest allies of the United States in NATO -- Britain and France -- have in their arsenals 162 medium-range missiles targeted on the Soviet Union...(supplying additional paragraph)

CEMA MATERIAL, TECHNICAL SUPPLY SECTION MEETS

PM241127 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 12 Mar 83 (Signed to Press 14 Mar) p 20

[TASS report: "Cooperation in the Material and Technical Supply Sphere"]

[Text] A routine session of the CEMA committee for cooperation in the material and technical supply sphere has been held in Kiev. Participating in it were leaders of the central material and technical supply organs of Bulgaria, Hungary, the SRV, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR, and the CSSR. The Soviet delegation was headed by N.V. Martynov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gossnab.

There was an examination of the results of the implementation of measures contained in the long-term targeted program for cooperation among the CEMA countries in saving fuel, energy, and raw materials and also of a report presented to the CEMA session on expanding collaboration among the fraternal countries in the economical and rational use of material resources. The report contains proposals on putting new and additional energy sources into economic circulation, on organizing the production of energy-saving equipment and on resolving scientific and technical problems in this sphere. Great attention was paid to exchanging experience.

The committee examined the program for multifacted scientific and technical cooperation among the CEMA countries for improving the organization, development and technical equipping of long-term storage facilities and also the results achieved in exchanging surplus and unused industrial and technical output, and outlined measures to further expand this work.

The session was addressed by A.B. Lyashko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers.

Decisions were taken on the questions under review whose implementation will help to increase social production efficiency in the CEMA countries and to further expand cooperation in the material and technical supply sphere.

CEMA TRANSPORT COOPERATION DISCUSSED

PM182105 [Editorial Report] -- Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 11, March 1983, signed to press 9 March 1983 publishes on page 20 a 2,200-word article by S. Alekseyev and A. Sashin under the heading "Development of Transport Ties" which notes that "playing an important part in the CEMA countries' national economies, transport exerts a substantial influence on the intensification of the fraternal states' social production." Pointing out that "the long-term targeted program for cooperation in the transport sphere approved in 1979 provides for the implementation of over 50 measures for the development and modernization of transport mainlines, border railroad stations and ports, the solution of problems of international air transport, the expansion of container and other progressive shipment methods." The article then outlines the CEMA countries' achievements and plans in rail, water and air transport and container shipments.

SOVIET, U.S. APPROACHES TO DEMOCRACY VIEWED

LD241444 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0545 GMT 24 Mar 83

[From the "Current Problems of International Life" series, commentary entitled "Democracy and Public Life -- Genuine and Imaginary" by international affairs journalist Vladlen Kuznetsov]

[Text] Good morning, esteemed radio listeners. Official Washington has recently begun to stress a program of democracy and public diplomacy. This is being passed off as some kind of new direction in U.S. foreign policy, almost as some kind of latest fashion, the last word in fashion in international relations. However, those who might think that from now on Reagan's administration will give up secret diplomacy practised in the lobbies and will make big policy for its own public and the whole international audience to see are in error. Those who might come to the conclusion that as of now the White House, the Department of State and the Pentagon have decided to pay heed to the opinions of their own and other peoples when formulating this policy, as required by the principles of democracy, would, likewise, be making a mistake. No; if anything is going to change, it will not be the essence of official Washington's approach to international affairs, but rather its propaganda about it.

At present, and I quote -- the U.S. Government is incapable of understanding other peoples. This is stated by William Fulbright, the eminent American statesman. Indeed, where could those who are afflicted by a mania of suspiciousness of and hostility to all people who think differently abroad and at home, those who manifest a truly McCarthy-like irreconcilability with all that is honest and progressive in the contemporary world, those who attempt to break the crisis of confidence in the White House's course on the international arena and in their own country by demands to embrace the American policy of power, those who conceived the idea of imposing the values of the American way of life upon the whole world with the aid of crusades under the standard of public diplomacy, those who do not even stop at intimidating peoples, countries and continents with the threat of nuclear war -- where could these people obtain this understanding?

Incidentally, neither public diplomacy nor a program of democracy regarding international political issues are anything new. In any case, they are not a discovery of scientists-intellectuals in the service of the White House, its consultants; both have been implemented in practice for many years now, though not in the United States it is true. "The government repeals secret diplomacy," Lenin's decree on peace proclaimed in 1917 stated -- the first foreign policy act of the Soviet Government. Thus, for the first time in the history of diplomacy, the cover of secrecy surrounding policies made behind the people's back was lifted. A state with honest and open diplomacy appeared on the international arena, diplomacy that is being practised for all to see and that has no need to hide anything from the public eye, since the goals and interests of its policies do not depart from the interests of the people.

For the first time in the history of mankind peoples were called upon to take a direct and active part in solving the main question of war and peace, in solving civilization's destiny. For the first time a state addressed its peace-loving plans and initiatives to two recipients. Instead of one: governments and peoples alike; for the first time it began to strive for peace simultaneously at the top and at the bottom, for thus Vladimir Ilyich Lenin's question was posed. The decree on peace put forward a program of universal, equitable and democratic peace. The words peace and democracy were put on the same footing: Service of peace is the highest goal of democracy; peace is the foremost condition for the existence of democracy, for its development and improvement. Such a plan of peace and democracy is only possible in a place and at a time where and when policies are made not merely by professionals, but, above all, by popular masses, the main creators of all that is of substance; creators of history itself. Working out and implementing foreign policy, the CPSU and the Soviet state are invariably guided by the fundamental Leninist principle; policy is in fact the destiny of millions of people.

It is precisely this that explains and determines the finely attuned sense of responsibility with which our party and state approach international affairs and the profound democratism that makes Soviet foreign policy stand out. It is formulated on the basis of a strict taking into account of the views of the people, its vital needs and aspirations; it is formulated according to the principle of indivisibility of peace; security for me means security for all.

The approach to formulating foreign policy is different in the West. There, they do not particularly reckon with the views of the people; instead they like to proclaim that they act on people's behalf. To this very day, if we recall Lenin's appraisal, and I quote -- there the most important questions of war, peace and diplomatic issues are resolved by a miserably small handful of capitalists who lie not only to the masses but frequently to the parliament as well.

Policy, including international policy, in the serious sense of this word, is essentially a matter for the people. A policy that fails to take into account their views and desires turns into intrigue, petty intrigue at that. The defense of universal peace, the highest and foremost right of man, the right to live without wars, this is the destiny of democracy. Vladimir Ilich Lenin said on this subject: Democracy manifests itself in its boldest relief in the main question of war and peace. This is the highest criterion of the genuine democratism of any government. Does it serve the interests of universal peace, the interests of peoples who crave security, or does it undermine these interests, does it threaten them? This yardstock determines everything, especially in our era of nuclear missiles when mankind is facing the dilemma of existence. Proceeding from this, we deny the right to call themselves democrats to those who contemplate first strike, who nurture doctrines of nuclear wars, from limited to protracted ones, who invent barbaric means of waging war such as the neutron bomb and similar means for the nuclear extermination of people. We deny the right to call themselves democrats to those who, for the sake of world domination, imperial ambitions and satisfying mercenary and so-called vital interests or for the sake of grabbing strategic raw materials which are in short supply, are ready to gamble with the existence of various regions of our planet and with the life of peoples who inhabit them. Genuine upholders of democracy, in the loftiest sense of the word, are those who strive to halt to the arms race, who pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and who deny a right of this kind to others, who regard war as crime against humanity and do all they can to eliminate it from our lives. They are those who take to the streets and squares of cities in the ranks of the mass antinuclear movement in order to compel the government to take into account their will for disarmament, peace and security.

True, there are some in the West who opine that peace fighters stand in the way of making so-called big politics. But is this politics not for the masses? Could it be that this politics does not have their well-being at heart? Is it at all possible to imagine this politics without the participation of the public and peoples? Here again we will reach for Lenin's legacy: We should, the founder of the Soviet state said, help peoples to involve themselves in the questions of war and peace. The time when it was possible in the bourgeois West to keep the masses away from these issues has gone once and for all. We are witnesses to the extent of the active involvement of peoples everywhere in the process of resolving the destiny of universal peace and international security, the extent to which they are resolved to take their own fate into their own hands, without putting their trust in those who play with the insane and adventurist idea of unleashing nuclear war.

However this interference, a legitimate interference that corresponds with the ideals of democracy and humanism, is not to the liking of some professional politicians in the West. Obviously they reckon that control of big politics is their exclusive right and sole privilege.

In the White House peace fighters are treated as bawlers, dilettante pacifists or as downright antipatriots and even accomplices of the Kremlin. Police truncheons are even used in America against fighters for peace. God alone, or those in the White House who are audacious enough to speak on his behalf, knows how this can be reconciled with the program of democracy and public diplomacy. In some other NATO countries too, participants in the mass antinuclear movement are not treated in a Christian way. Matters have reached a stage when in Britain they even arranged for a court of law farce against women participants in the peace camp at the Greenham Common Air Base, where the British authorities intend to give refuge to American cruise missiles.

After all this there are still some audacious people in the West who take it upon themselves to assert that allegedly in the Soviet Union participants of the public movement for peace are subject to repressions or to allege that there is no such movement in the Soviet Union altogether. These people cannot, or more correctly do not wish to, understand that this is precisely a kind of issue where the goal of the government and the public do not diverge. Soviet fighters for the defense of peace have no need to convince their own government that it should outlaw war, that it should refuse to be the first to use nuclear weapons, or that it should ban war propaganda. This has already been done. There is no need to demand that there should be no increase in military spending: This does not increase anyway. There is no need to call for agreement with the idea of freezing nuclear arsenals: The Soviet Government agrees with this idea.

Thus there exists a genuine love of peace and a pseudolove of peace; there exists a genuine democracy and a pseudodemocracy. The world public and peoples, comparing the foreign policy courses of states and governments, their positions regarding the cardinal questions of war and peace, their attitude toward a thermonuclear conflict, their appraisal of the antiwar movement that has come to encompass the entire globe, are realizing better all the time who is who: who sincerely strives for peace and security, proving their adherence to these issues by putting forward constructive initiatives, by practical deeds and by their whole conduct on the international arena; and who nurtures secret and aggressive designs and plans that threaten universal peace under the mask of champions of democracy and public diplomacy.

The cause of peace is in the hands of peoples. This is a right: the right to strong and secure peace that has been won by their suffering in at least two world wars. The peoples have no intention of letting anyone bargain with this right, neither the uniformed hawks, nor the hawks in tailcoats. This right will triumph, because peace-loving peoples and states possess enough potential, power and possibilities to overcome the current critical phase in international relations, to stop the arms race and to attain effective disarmament agreements; to cut off all roads that lead to war and to pave the way to reliable and universal peace, a peace that is truly democratic, with an open and honest diplomacy that serves the interests of peace alone.

WFTU BUDAPEST SESSION FORMS EUROPEAN COMMISSION

LD200218 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 19 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A meeting of the leaders of the central trade union organization of the European countries belonging to the WFTU has taken place in Budapest. The Soviet delegation was led by Comrade Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU. A decision was made at the meeting to create a European commission of the WFTU.

REPORTAGE ON VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO CANADA

Arrival in Ottawa

LD231848 Moscow TASS in English 1738 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] Ottawa March 23 TASS -- U.S. Vice President George Bush has arrived in Ottawa today for a one-day visit. He will confer with Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Foreign Minister Allan MacEachen and other government members, to discuss, as is pointed out in official quarters, a broad range of international issues as well as such questions of bilateral relations as the "acid rains", the U.S. trade policy and tests of U.S. cruise missiles in Canada.

Bush, Trudeau on Missile Tests

LD241958 Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 24 Mar 83

["Under Pressure From Washington" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- By TASS commentator Yevgeniy Kiselev:

U.S. Vice President George Bush, during his one-day trip to Canada, had an opportunity to learn about Canadian's attitude to the Reagan administration's militarist plans. Eggs were thrown at him on two occasions, and when Bush arrived for a meeting with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and other Canadian leaders, his limousine was all yellow from the yolk of eggs. A group of Canadian peace campaigners met the American vice president on his arrival to Ottawa with chants "no to cruise missiles" and "peace now". This is how Canadians expressed their attitude to the main issue of the agenda of the U.S.-Canadian talks -- the testing of American cruise missiles in Canadian territory. Consenting to the testing of American missiles in their territory, Canadians will find themselves involved in the Pentagon's dangerous plans and Canadian territory may be turned into a cockpit of nuclear war.

On arriving in Ottawa, George Bush told a press conference before meeting Canadian leaders that Washington had not as yet requested Ottawa to allow it to test its cruise missiles in Canadian territory, but that such tests would facilitate NATO's long-term plan for reducing nuclear armaments. It is known that Washington has since long exerted political pressure on Ottawa to compel it to agree to the testing. And the aim is not "reduction of nuclear armaments", as Bush claims, but development of that offensive first-strike weapon before its deployment in Western Europe and other parts of the world.

At a dinner in honour of the U.S. vice president, Pierre Trudeau declared that his government is considering the question of testing cruise missiles and that Canada, as a NATO member, cannot fail to respond to the request of the "Europeans" -- its NATO allies -- for testing only homing systems for cruise missiles. Trudeau declared that his talks with Bush were similar to those held by U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger with defence ministers from other NATO member-states in Portugal at meeting of the nuclear planning group. The NATO ministers approved under Weinberger's pressure the plan to start the deployment of 572 American missiles in Western Europe at the year's end.

Anti-American demonstrations in Ottawa attest to deep concern and alarm of Canadians over the intensification of the U.S. Administration's attempts to sweep Canada into the preparations for nuclear war.

Ottawa 'Mission' Fails

LD241453 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 24 Mar 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vadim Volkov and Petr Fedorov]

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush has completed a brief visit to Canada. In Ottawa he had talks with Prime Minister Trudeau and the secretary of state for external affairs. The main purpose of Bush's trip was to get Canada's final agreement on holding U.S. cruise missile tests in the province of Alberta and unconditional support for Reagan's so-called zero option.

Judging from an AP report, the American vice president was unable to achieve his objectives. The Canadian side, the agency notes, demonstrated during the talks its concern at Reagan's approach to problems concerning nuclear arms control, nor did he succeed in solving the question of American cruise missile tests. Prime Minister Trudeau and the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs stressed the importance of a serious approach to discussing nuclear disarmament problems, and their interest in a successful conclusion to the Soviet-American talks in Geneva. The Canadian secretary of state for external affairs said at a press conference that it is now clear that the zero option will not lead to progress at the Geneva talks.

MARCHUK MEETS WITH CANADIAN ENVOY 21 MAR

PM231313 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Official Report"]

[Text] On 21 March G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, received G.A. Pearson, Canadian ambassador to the USSR. Questions of the further expansion of scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Canada were discussed at the meeting.

REAGAN USE OF ANTI-USSR AERIAL PHOTOS QUESTIONED

LD241858 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] For the first time in 20 years, since President Kennedy, a U.S. president used aerial photographs to back up his claim of Soviet expansionism. President Reagan did it on Wednesday night in a nationwide speech. Our observer Igor Dmitryev makes this comment.

It was supposed to be a sensation, like the unveiling of a new Ford car or a multimillion Hollywood production. When president of the United States, which has over 1,500 military bases and installations around the world manned by half a million troops, says he wants to show his own people and the world what a threat the Soviet Union is, one would expect something really breathtaking -- which it was: One photograph, taken by an American spy plane, showed a Soviet-made MI-8 helicopter in Cuba. Was it military or civilian, the President did not say. Helicopters don't usually carry nuclear bombs. Another photograph showed what the President described as Soviet-built MiG fighters. This is what the ASSOCIATED PRESS has to say about this, until recently, highly classified information. Quote: "MiG-21 fighters have been part of the Cuban Air Force for many years. The Soviet Union began sending advanced MiG-23 fighters to Cuba in 1978. From time to time there have been suggestions that the MiG-23's are nuclear capable planes but the Pentagon has said it believes they are primarily defence aircraft." End quote.

To believe Mr Reagan, tiny Nicaragua is a grave threat to the United States when it expands an airstrip built under the Somoza regime. But we all should rejoice when the United States expands a strip on its Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean to receive huge B-52 bombers carrying nuclear arms.

If the host of Wednesday's show was comedian Bob Hope it would be fun, but Ronald Reagan is not supposed to be a comedian, so what is it that he wants to get in exchange for a Soviet-built MI-8 helicopter in Cuba? President Reagan has asked Congress for an anti-ballistic system of the 21st century, in violation of the 1972 Soviet-American anti-ballistic missile treaty. In 1976 the price for the non-existent as it turned out later Soviet brigade in Cuba was a congressional assault on the SALT-II treaty. In 1983 the American President is working on a star wars scenario on much the same pretext, that is on a false accusation of the Soviet Union for being a threat to the United States.

The NEW YORK TIMES says that the aerial photographs used by the President on Wednesday, had been given to him by ranking Pentagon officials. The question is: Don't these professionals have any respect for their President?

HOUSE APPROVES 'ALTERNATIVE' DRAFT BUDGET

LD251015 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1822 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Washington, 24 Mar (TASS) -- Dealing a very strong blow at Reagan's personal prestige, the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress has, by 229 votes against 196, approved an "alternative" draft federal budget for the 1984 financial year, drawn up by the Democratic Party. The main distinguishing trait of the "alternative" draft is a certain reduction in the rate of increasing military expenditure, as planned by the Reagan administration, and an increase in allocations for such programs as health, education, assistance to the poor, and the creation of extra jobs -- programs so sharply cut and so acutely needed by Americans.

The vote in the House of Representatives bears witness to the fact that the administration is finding it more and more difficult to get its militaristic programs through Congress, which used to automatically rubber-stamp any White House decisions. However, legislators are now no longer able to ignore the growing dissatisfaction in the country at the huge military expenditure which led to a record deficit in the federal budget and laid an unbearable burden on the country's economy, plunging it into the harshest crisis since the times of the "Great Depression" of the 1930's.

The voting took place despite intensive brainwashing of the legislators by high-ranking administration officials and by Reagan personally, who for several hours was telephoning members of both parties of the House in attempts to convince them to turn down the "alternative" draft. As UPI reports, Reagan called the Democrats' draft a "declaration of war" on the administration.

Observers are unanimous in calling the results of the voting in the House a "crushing defeat for Reagan on budgetary questions." "The Democrats in the House of Representatives," UPI notes, "have effectively put an end to the 2-year dominance of Reagan and have made it understood that they will no longer submit to his will or be reconciled to his economic policy."

The speaker of the House of Representatives, T. O'Neill, declared: "The people consider that Reagan's policy is unjust and that it has gone too far." "In achieving victory on the budget vote," THE NEW YORK TIMES says, "the Democratic leaders have completed the process of seizing power that began after last November's elections, and have established effective control over the House of Representatives for the first time since Reagan took office." According to THE WASHINGTON POST, the voting in the House of Representatives is "the most serious setback so far for the economic program" of the Reagan administration.

The draft budget for the 1984 financial year now has to be studied by the Senate which, it is expected, will start work at the beginning of April. In the Senate the majority belongs to the Republicans. After adoption by the Senators of their own variant, the draft budgets of both houses will go for discussion by the Congress Coordinating Commission which will have to work out a compromise variant.

U.S. BUDGET, MILITARY INDUSTRY 'PROFIT' VIEWED

LD250043 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 24 Mar 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] Reports have been received from the United States that the Washington administration is pushing its gigantic program for arms production through Congress. High ranking officials are making speeches with the aim of providing propaganda support for the arms race. As is known, the U.S. military budget over the next 5 years will amount to almost $2 trillion. Senator Cranston, a possible Democratic candidate for U.S. President, said that the military industry was trying to frighten both Americans and the U.S. Congress in order to get even more money out of them for military needs.

It is precisely because the Washington administration is acting in the interests of the military industry that it does not wish to conduct talks on limiting nuclear weapons seriously. This was stated by former U.S. Assistant State Secretary (?Newsom). Limiting armaments means limiting the profits of the military industry. For the good of the military industry and the imperialist aims of U.S. corporations, the U.S. military intends to spend almost $10 billion on preparations for chemical warfare, and this is causing alarm among the Americans themselves. Today we have received a report that a group of U.S. Congressmen intend to introduce a bill to ban the future production in America of the most barbarous type of chemical weapons -- binary weapons. The congressmen are supported by the coalition against the production of chemical weapons. This coalition considers the production of binary munitions to be a harmful policy in the sphere of national security and a serious blow against U.S. foreign policy interests. This is true but it is a point of view totally contrary to the administration's official position. The ruling circles in the United States consider the use of chemical weapons to be in accord with the basic principle of the foreign policy of their empire.

U.S. AIR FORCE TO TEST ANTI-SATELLITE SYSTEM

LD231515 Moscow TASS in English 0821 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 23 TASS -- The United States is forcing preparations for militarising outer space. As it became known to the magazine AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, the U.S. Air Force has decided to embark on the testing of the ASAT anti-satellite system, which it is currently developing.

The first series of the tests is scheduled to take place next summer and the second one in the fall, the magazine reports. According to the main accounting office of U.S. Congress, the development of the ASAT system will cost 3.6 billion dollars. It is to be deployed in the 1980's.

TASS REVIEWS BOOK BY FORMER CIA OFFICIAL

LD231626 Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 23 TASS -- The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency is one of Washington's main subversive tools in the Third World.

This subject is dealt with by Ralph McGehee, a former career CIA man, in his book "Deadly Deceits".

When in the sixties, he writes, many African states gained independence, the architects of the U.S. policy began actively working on a programme to combat that challenge.

From 1959 to 1963, the number of CIA's strongpoints in Africa grew 55 per cent. In the early sixties the CIA drew up a plan for the assassination of the Congolese leader Patrice Lumumba and cooperated with those who made short work of him. In the seventies the espionage department was instructed to interfere in the events in Angola with the aim of overthrowing the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] government. In giving assistance to the splitters, the CIA appropriated millions of dollars for their equipment, air support and recruiting mercenaries, Ralph McGehee writes. It closely cooperated with South Africa's secret services in carrying out the aggression of the Republic of South Africa against Angola.

The Israeli intelligence service has been the CIA's invariable partner since the fifties, the book says.

The CIA's clandestine operations, McGehee stresses, have nothing in common with intelligence aims. Washington uses them to overthrow the legitimate governments objectionable to it, to install undemocratic regimes in power.

EXTRACT FROM 'CIA AGAINST USSR' PUBLISHED

PM241139 [Editorial Report] Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 March 1983 publishes on page 2 under the heading "Frontmen" a 2,000-word extract from N.N. Yakovlev's book "The CIA Against the USSR" published by the Molodaya Gvardiya publishing house. The extract gives an account of the case of T.M. Velikanova who "regularly prepared, duplicated and distributed on USSR territory materials with slanderous fabrications discrediting the Soviet social and state system." Although she and her accomplices are presented in the West as defenders of human rights, they are "in fact paid agents of the CIA," Yakovlev claims. The extract also comments on the trial of Rigelson and Kapiganchuk, who confessed that "on instructions from Western special services and primarily the CIA" they had engaged in "anti-Soviet agitation" in order to "complicate the USSR's position in the international arena," and discusses the case of Orlov, Ginzburg and Sharanskiy, claiming that their connection with the "Solzhenitsyn fund" involved them in recruiting "people to continue antistate activity." In the case of Ginzburg and Orlov, the Soviet court "displayed enviable patience. But it has its limits. We will see how events develop further or to be more precise whether the Western and primarily the U.S. special services will moderate their zeal in subversive work against the USSR."

Finally Yakovlev discusses a book by "former high-ranking CIA staffer," (G. Rozitskiy), entitled "The CIA's Secret Operations," who claims that the purpose of these operations is "to fight communist regimes on their own territory." "The 'human rights' campaign, Yakovlev concludes, "was conceived in the depths of the CIA and probably received blessing from higher up (why else should the 'plausible denials' we are now hearing, after the criminals' conviction, be so loud?) and the notorious 'frontmen' have been caught red-handed."

PROTOCOL SIGNED ON MOSCOW-BEIJING AIR ROUTE

LD251237 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1229 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Beijing 25 Mar (TASS) -- Consultations have been completed here between the USSR Ministry of Civil Aviation and the PRC Civil Aviation General Administration on cooperation between the airlines of the two countries. A protocol which was signed envisages introduction of joint measures to raise the effectiveness of the exploitation of the Moscow-Beijing air route.

U.S. SIDE FAILS TO ATTEND PRC TEXTILE TALKS

LD231300 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 21 Mar 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] The XINHUA agency reports the U.S. side did not attend the latest planned Chinese-U.S. talks on the export of Chinese textiles to the United States. That is how the fifth round of the talks ended -- in nothing. The preceding fourth meeting was interrupted 2 months ago. During these 2 months the United States has banned the import of around 30 types of textile goods from China. In response, the PRC Government announced a freeze on imports from the United States of cotton, soya beans and synthetic fibers.

The Washington administration, expressing the interests of its magnates in the textile industry, obstinately refuses to allow the Chinese side to increase its exports of textile goods to the United States.

U.S. PLANNING B-52 CONTROL CENTER IN JAPAN

LD251127 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Tokyo March 25 TASS -- The United States keeps expanding the network of military bases and installations in Japan. By 1984 the Pentagon is going to establish a major control center near the Japanese city Tokorozawa Saitama Prefecture to monitor the flights of B-52 strategic bombers. The station is already under construction. This was disclosed by Hiroko Yasukate, member of parliament from the Communist Party of Japan, in parliament today. The siting in Japan of one more military installation directly subordinated to the U.S. Strategic Aviation Command comes as evidence of Washington's plans to make Japan obediently follow the U.S. global nuclear strategy.

PAPER SEES SOUTH KOREA THREATENING DPRK

PM241327 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Igor Lebedev article under the "Fantasy and Fact" rubric: "Laments for Seoul"]

[Text] Were one to believe the numerous statements by U.S. politicians and generals about the present condition of South Korea, one might get the impression that the Seoul regime is in its final hours. However, the overseas "benefactors" are by no means concerned about South Korea's serious economic disorders: the unrestrained rise in unemployment and inflation, the fall in the population's living standards and the increase in the people's dissatisfaction with the corrupt puppet regime. U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, who recently visited Seoul, U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger and other U.S. figures are now extremely worried by the "threat" to South Korea.... "from the north," that is, from the DPRK. And it is to "assist" the Seoul regime, as the head of the Pentagon put it, to "deter aggression from the north's larger armed forces" that high-ranking Reagan administration representatives are now unanimously supporting a further increase in military subsidies to Seoul. They are to total $232.7 million in the next fiscal year as against $211 million this year.

The scenario according to which the DPRK is depicted as the aggressor while the antipopular Chon Tu-hwan regime -- the U.S. "defenseless ally" -- is thoroughly hackneyed. It is set in motion whenever it is necessary to shock U.S. legislators with the myth of the "North Korean threat" and to obtain their consent to inject more dollars into Seoul, which are spent on intensifying the repressive military-policy apparatus. After all, U.S. military allocations to Seoul are already vast.

It is no coincidence that South Korea is like a vast barracks: Seoul spends over one-third of its state budget on military needs. In addition to over 600,000 men under arms, the Chon Tu-hwan regime has 1.24 million reservists, local guard detachments numbering 2.8 million, 4.4 million men in civil defense and 1.5 million students and schoolchildren who regularly engage in military training. Thus, out of a population of 38 million, approximately 10 million South Koreans are receiving varying degrees of military training.

The United States is hastily rearming the Seoul Army: The Air Force is being replenished with F-15 and F-16 fighter-bombers and the Navy with modern warships. The 40,000-strong contingent of U.S. troops stationed at dozens of military and Air Force bases in South Korea regularly receives reinforcements, combat hardware and equipment. U.S. nuclear weapons -- according to various figures, between 700 and 1,000 units -- are stationed on South Korean territory. Washington's plans to equip warships of the U.S. 7th Fleet, which has bases in the south of the Korean peninsula, with cruise missiles armed with nuclear warheads and to deploy neutron weapons in South Korea are also common knowledge.

Many types of military hardware -- from tanks to helicopters and guns -- are now being produced by Seoul itself under foreign, mainly U.S. license, not only ensuring its own aggression potential but also becoming rich by exporting weapons on an annually increasing scale. It is no coincidence that a large group of military experts visiting an exhibition of military hardware in South Korea recently rated highly Seoul's successes in the militarization field and came to the unanimous opinion that the Seoul regime's offensive military potential is high. The same opinion is shared by General John Wickham. He has characterized Chon Tu-hwan's Army as "one of the best in the world, professionally trained and well equipped." Perhaps the former commander of the Joint U.S.-South Korean Forces was exaggerating, but not, of course, with regard to the Army's equipment. In that respect Seoul is not on hunger rations.

However, Washington prefers not to see that. Lamenting about "unfortunate South Korea," Washington continually speaks of the threat allegedly hanging over Seoul and complains about its Far East ally's weakness. The cynicism of the "crocodile tears" is particularly clear now, after the thunder of bombs and guns near the DPRK shores heard during Team Spirit-83, the largest U.S.-South Korean maneuvers in recent years. The Pentagon's strategists did not even try to disguise the fact that the maneuvers were directed against the region's sovereign states, primarily against the DPRK. Thus, if anybody is threatening anybody else, it is Seoul that is threatening the DPRK by staging acts of military provocation on the latter's borders.

There can be no doubt that Seoul will get the extra military subsidies. After all, the Reagan administration has declared the Korean peninsula a region of U.S. "vital interests." That means that Washington regards South Korea as one of its most important Far East military outposts and a bridgehead for anticommunism and neocolonialist economic expansion in the region. Washington also needs the Seoul regime for another reason: For 30 years now, the United States has been using South Korea's strategic position to fan areas of cold war and to whip up tension in the region and has been trying to establish "strategic predominance" and military superiority for Washington in the Far East. Imperial but vain desires!

PENTAGON SPONSORS MILITARY SEMINAR IN SEOUL

LD231523 Moscow TASS in English 0958 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] Tokyo March 23 TASS -- A regular "multilateral seminar on questions of controlling ground forces in the Pacific area" has opened in Seoul. It is attended by military representatives of the United States, South Korea, Pakistan, Thailand and a number of other countries. As reported by the Japanese press, this seminar, held on the Pentagon's initiative since 1978, discusses questions of adjusting plans of the military preparations of the United States and its allies in the Asian and Pacific area and of holding joint exercises.

Observers say the theme of the present seminar are problems of "ensuring the security" and "expanding the dialogue and cooperation of Pacific countries."

But judging by statements made by the organizers of this militaristic gathering, their true aim is to scare the Asian peoples with the mythical "communist threat". Thus, a raving report was made by the Chief of Staff of the South Korean Army Hwang Yong-si, who tried to "justify" the total militarisation of the south of the Korean peninsula by the Seoul regime with the help of the United States. The purpose of such statements is to "substantiate" the American Administration's plans of creating in Asia a new military alliance consisting of the United States, South Korea and Japan.

SOVIET-INDIAN PLANNING COOPERATION SESSION OPENS

LD250254 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] New Delhi March 24 TASS -- The seventh session of the Soviet-Indian group for cooperation in the field of planning has opened here. Addressing the opening meeting, Sh. B. Chavan, India's minister of planning, said that the republic's economic progress is inseparably linked with a widening and deepening of mutually beneficial Soviet-Indian economic cooperation. The strengthening of bilateral cooperation, the minister said, is of great significance for attaining the targets of India's sixth five-year plan for social and economic development (1980-1985).

The participants in the session will examine questions in connection with the planning of the development of energetics, railway transport, irrigation and other branches of the economy.

GROUPS ON SATELLITES TO BE SET UP WITH INDIA

BK231436 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have set up four joint groups for distant probing of earth space, meteorology, astronomy, and optical observation of satellites. The two countries have also considered the possibility of setting up a permanent working group for investigation of earth natural resources by satellites. An official spokesman of the Soviet international spacebody, Intercosmos, said this in Moscow.

PRAVDA NOTES PDPA REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY SLOGANS

PM241123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Mar 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "PDPA Central Committee Slogans"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 March -- In connection with the approaching fifth anniversary of the April Revolution, the PDPA Central Committee has published in all central newspapers slogans devoted to this memorable date in the life of Afghan society.

The PDPA, the document says, is a reliable defender of the working masses' interests. Party and people are united and draw strength from their mutual support.

The PDPA Central Committee calls on Afghanistan's citizens to join the ranks of the DRA's heroic Armed Forces, which are guarding the April Revolution gains and the national sovereignty of the young republic.

The document emphasizes the great significance of the unbreakable friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. The Soviet people and their leading force, the CPSU, the slogans note, stand firmly in support of the April Revolution and the Afghan people's struggle for their country's freedom and independence, against the intrigues by aggressive imperialist forces.

Rallies and meetings attended by thousands of people are currently being held throughout the country in honor of the approaching portentous date and in support of the policy of the PDPA and the DRA Government, aimed at improving the life of workers and peasants and defending the April Revolution gains. The country's industrial enterprises are competing to fulfill and overfulfill ahead of schedule the plans and programs set by the state for the DRA's economic development.

PRK OFFICIALS VIEW WESTERN MISREPRESENTATION

PM241011 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Special correspondent M. Ilinskiy reportage under "Kampuchea Reborn" rubric: "Through a Screen of Lies"]

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh [no date given] -- I returned from Siem Reap Airport, which is approximately 6 km from Angkor Wat, to Phnom Penh in the same helicopter as (Pkhet Pkhanur), chairman of the Kampuchean writers association, deputy chairman of Kampuchea's AAPSO and member of the Kampuchea United Front for National Construction and Defense Central Committee. (Pkhet Pkhanur) is a most interesting interlocutor. His eyes sparkle with intelligence. He is perspicacious. He speaks about what most disturbs him: "It is not difficult to understand why the enemies of young Kampuchea are trying to sqeeze our country in the vise of a political, economic and diplomatic blockade, why they are hampering the normalization of life, seeking to discredit the people's power and rendering support to emigre Khmer rabble of various kinds. The reasons are obvious. They hate the foundations of the new Kampuchea society which has embarked on the socialist path of development. They are sickened by the ideas of friendship, fraternity, cooperation and mutual aid among the three Indochina peoples and the principles of international solidarity which unite our countries with the Soviet Union, the socialist community and all progressive mankind.

"The imperialist states' special services and international reaction," (Pkhet Pkhanur) reasonably concluded, "closely cooperate with the bouregois mass media. They are seeking to influence international forums, governments, and public opinion, chiefly in Third World countries, in order to distract the development of their contacts with People's Kampuchea."

The absence in the bourgeois press of genuine information about the situation in Kampuchea undoubtedly harms mutual understanding between the peoples and allows political campaigns which are hostile to Kampuchea and Vietnam to be fanned and support to be given to Pol Pot's murderers. It is no secret that certain religious and nationalist circles in developing states are increasingly being drawn into these campaigns. False information is consciously foisted onto these circles and they are deprived of the possibility of drawing a comparison between the way that questions connected with religion and the position of national minorities are resolved in the Poeple's Republic of Kampuchea and the kind of policy in their regard that was pursued by Pol Pot's bloody regime.

The policy of genocide during the Pol Pot period spread to various national minorities in Kampuchea, in particular the Chams, who profess Islam. "The best Cham is a dead Cham." Pol Pot's secret policy agents used to declare as they destroyed Cham settlements.

"If people's power had not been victorious our entire nationality would have been completely eradicated." These words beloing to (Ke Sam), leading of the (Tyansia) people's committee. "We have now been saved," he continued. "Worker solidarity teams have been set up. We are working together with out Khmer brothers. We are restoring our houses and mosques and freely carry out our Islamic rites. The Chams are once again wearing their national dress. The government and organs of people's power are offering great moral and material aid to the people from Cham settlements. Favorable conditions for the establishment of ties between the Cham communique and international Islamic organisations are being created. And we should very much like the people in the countries of the Near and Middle East and in the states of Southeast Asia, Malysia, for example, where Islam is professed, to come to know extensively about Pol Pot's crimes and the way that the Chams are living today in Kampuchea, whose government is pursuing an honorable and just policy with regard to religious communities and national minorities."

TIKHONOV CONCLUDES SFRY VISIT, RETURNS TO MOSCOW

Conveys Andropov Greetings

LD241555 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1455 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Mar (TASS) -- A meeting was held here today between N.A. Tikhonov [no titles given] and M. Ribicic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee.

During the conversation, which took place in a comradely atmosphere, N.A. Tikhonov, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yu.V. Andropov and the Soviet Government, conveyed to M. Ribicic and all members of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, communist greetings and sincere wishes for success in work on the implementation of the decisions of the 12th LCY Congress and for strengthening the role of the party in resolving the tasks of socialist construction.

The Soviet side stressed that the course of further development of cooperation with the SFRY, which was confirmed by the 26th CPSU Congress, remains unchanged. The leadership of the CPSU consistently favors the expansion of links with the LCY for the purpose of deepening mutual understanding and cohesion in the struggle for peace and socialism.

During discussion of international issues, attempts of imperialist and reactionary forces to put pressure on the socialist countries was noted, and N.A. Tikhonov and M. Ribicic spoke in favor of increased efforts by all peace-loving forces to stop the dangerous course of events and to eliminate the threat of nuclear war.

N.A. Tikhonov spoke of the activity of the CPSU and the Soviet people in carrying out the decisions of the 26th congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums in the field of the USSR's domestic and foreign policy.

M. Ribicic in turn gave information about the situation in his country and the progress made in fulfilling the decisions of the 12th LCY Congress.

Present at the conversation on the Soviet side were: V.F. Maltsev and N.N. Rodionov, members of the CPSU Central Committee; on the Yugoslav side -- D. Vidic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, V. Janzic, executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and M. Drulovic, member of the LCY Central Committee.

Moscow Radio Commentator on Talks

LD242356 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Soviet-Yugoslav summit talks have been held in Belgrade. The Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Tikhonov, staying in Yugoslavia on an official friendly visit; and the head of the Yugoslav Government, Milka Planinc, have assessed the current state of and the prospects for relations between the two countries and discussed pressing international problems. The two leaders were unanimous in their estimates of the Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation, writes our commentator Yuriy Shalygin. They have stressed the cooperation is fruitful and is firmly based on equality and mutual benefit. The cooperation rests on the long-established tradition of friendship between the Soviet and Yugoslav people. Although the two countries differ in approaches to certain issues, say the special features of domestic development or the international position of each country, the main things that unite the two countries are given prominence. That point should be specially stressed in view of the fact that some people still resort to all sorts of speculations and fabrications about Soviet-Yugoslav relations.

The talks in Belgrade had shown the two countries are interested in promoting their friendly ties. As far as their economies are concerned, special emphasis is being laid on cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia. This experience is of mutual use, the two prime ministers [as heard] noted. They further noted that there has been a steady rise in trade between their countries, which is particularly noticeable as international economic relations have been deteriorating. The talks in Belgrade have also shown, and that's another major result of them, that the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia have a common language on basic issues of war and peace, on the struggle for disarmament. Both leaders stressed that the most important objective today is to check the arms race and to carry on a policy of reducing international tensions. The vital interests of practically all nations depend on this. It has been noted that the Belgrade talks of 1983 may become the decisive year for the destinies of Europe, and not only Europe.

If action were not taken on the militaristic plans of the United States and the NATO alliance to deploy hundreds of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe, stability on the continent would be undermined and a threat would appear for many countries.

A call has been made in Belgrade to step up efforts by all forces who want to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war. As Milka Planinc sees it, the Soviet Government initiatives follow a line of reducing tensions. It has been pointed out at the talks that the proposals of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries open up favourable opportunities to solve pressing international problems, both in Europe and in other regions, without damaging the interests of security of any side. Nikolay Tikhonov spoke highly about the growing constructive role of the Non-aligned Movement, with Yugoslavia being a cofounder of the movement. It is possible to stop the world slipping into catastrophe by common efforts of the peace-minded forces. The two sides have expressed their conviction of this score at the Belgrade Soviet-Yugoslav summit talks.

Speeches at Stambolic Luncheon

LD241651 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1606 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Belgrade, 24 Mar (TASS) -- Every Yugoslav-Soviet meeting is not only an expressive manifestation of friendly relations between Yugoslavia and the USSR, but also makes a contribution to the cause of all-round mutually beneficial cooperation, to which we attribute the greatest significance, Petar Stambolic, president of the SFRY Presidency said at a luncheon which he gave today in honor of Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The struggle for strengthening peace and security and for independent free development and progress, is one of the most important tasks in which all countries should find points of contiguity, P. Stambolic said. Nonaligned Socialist Yugoslavia supports all actions and proposals leading to a curtailment of the arms race and to the attainment of agreements aimed at full and universal disarmament. We, he stressed, regard with great respect the latest initiatives and proposals of your country. In this we see the reinforcement of those efforts which facilitate the improvement of the general political climate and at the same time international cooperation.

In his speech of reply, Nikolay Tikhonov said: We want Soviet-Yugoslav relations to be even more stable and to be always founded on a basis of equal rights and mutual respect. For our part, we will do everything dependent on us to strengthen our friendship. Our talks and meetings in Yugoslavia are directed toward this.

One of the most important aims of our parties and states is to preserve peace on earth and to continue moving forward along the path of progress. Implementation of the plans for the construction of peace [mirnogo stroitelstva] and the successes of our cooperation in many spheres largely depend on the international situation, which has now been seriously exacerbated at the fault of the imperialist forces. We have to act in concert, uniting our efforts with all progressive and peace-loving forces to eliminate the nuclear threat hanging over peoples. We are profoundly convinced that peace can be preserved and consolidated without damaging anyone's security.

The recent initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty states, advanced at the meeting of the leaders of these states in Prague, are also directed at achieving this aim.

No kind of war is necessary to the Soviet people, nor to the peoples of the nonaligned countries, N. Tikhonov stressed. We have an attitude of great respect for everything positive that the Nonaligned Movement contributes to international life and we welcome that contribution to the cause of consolidating peace which was made by the recently-ended seventh conference of heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries held in New Delhi.

The luncheon was held in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

PRAVDA on Stambolic Meeting

PM251033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[TASS report from Belgrade headlined "Yugoslavia Visit"]

[Text] Belgrade March 24 TASS -- A meeting took place here today between Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Petar Stambolic, president of the collective Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

It was pointed out in their conversation, which passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere, that cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia develops successfully and that the all-round relations between the two countries grow stronger and acquire added contents. It was emphasised that the policy of further expanding this equal cooperation meets the fundamental interests of the Soviet and Yugoslav peoples and the interests of peace and socialism.

Also touched upon during the conversation were a number of pressing international problems. The head of the Soviet Government pointed out the importance of the latest initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, whose implementation would make it possible to improve appreciably the overall international climate and shunt the development of international relations back onto the lines of detente and constructive cooperation.

Petar Stambolic expressed approval of these initiatives.

The sides unanimously declared in favour of broadening cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia in efforts to consolidate peace, detente and the security of all states, both big and small, and to enhance the positions of socialism.

P. Stambolic spoke of the work of the seventh conference of heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries and its results. The conviction was expressed that the Nonaligned Movement will carry on its active struggle to safeguard peace and international security, put an end to the arms race, attain disarmament, restructure international economic relations on a just, democratic basis, and bring about complete and comprehensive decolonisation.

N.A. Tikhonov wished the Yugoslav comrades further successes in socialist building, raising the prosperity of the working people and consolidating the brotherhood and unity of the Yugoslav peoples and nationalities.

Taking part in the talks were: On the Soviet side -- V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; N.D. Komarov, first deputy foreign trade minister; N.N. Inozemtsev, USSR Gosplan deputy chairman; V.G. Morozov, first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and USSR ambassador to the SFRY N.N. Rodionov. On the Yugoslav side -- M. Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council; L. Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs; J. Srbovan, member of the Federal Executive Council, and SFRY Ambassador to the USSR M. Drulovic.

Visits Belgrade Memorials

PM241257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Tribute of Memory and Respect"]

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Mar -- On 22 March N.V. Tikhonov paid a tribute of respect to Josip Broz Tito. He visited the J. Broz Tito memorial complex in Belgrade and laid flowers.

The head of the Soviet Government honored with a minute's silence the memory of the eminent figure in the interntional communist and workers movement and the outstanding leader of Yugoslavia's peoples.

N.A. Tikhonov laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on Mount Avala near the Yugoslav capital. An honor guard was drawn up at the monument. The two countries' national anthems were played. The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers honored the memory of the servicemen who fell in the struggle for the motherland's honor and independence.

Flowers were laid at the memorial to the Soviet military leaders who died tragically in an air crash in Yugoslavia in 1964.

N.A. Tikhonov visited the Friendship Park in Belgrade. This green complex symbolizes the friendship of the peoples of different countries. A memorial avenue has been created there, where trees have been planted by eminent party and state figures who have visited Yugoslavia. Yesterday the head of the Soviet Government planted a tree of peace in the park.

Belgrade Talks End

LD241909 Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Belgrade March 24 TASS -- Talks have ended here today between Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and Milka Planic, chairwoman of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The two heads of government spoke highly of the existing level of relations between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in different fields. Reviewing progress in implementing Soviet-Yugoslav agreements on cooperation in the economic, scientific, technological, and commercial fields, they noted the existence of auspicious possibilities for the further dynamic development of this cooperation on a mutually-beneficial and long-term basis.

Nikolay Tikhonov and Milka Planinc expressed satisfaction with the results of the talks, stressed the usefulness of top-level meetings between Soviet and Yugoslav leaders and spoke in favor of the continuation of this practice. Both sides expressed the conviction that the talks they had had would contribute to the further extension of relations of friendship, mutual trust, and comprehensive cooperation between the peoples of the two countries and promote the cause of peace and socialism.

Nikolay Tikhonov extended to Milka Planinc an invitation to pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

The Soviet and Yugoslav heads of government signed a joint document reflecting agreements reached during the talks on possible additional measures to extend economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia during the current and subsequent five year periods.

A joint communique, to be published, has been approved on the results of the talks.

Completes Visit, Departs

LD251155 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Belgrade March 25 TASS -- Nikolay Tikhonov, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has completed his official friendly visit to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. He stayed here at the invitation of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia.

The state flags of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia were hoisted today at the airport, where Nikolay Tikhonov was seen off by Milca Planinc, chairwoman of the Federal Executive Council, Lazar Mojsov, Federal secretary for foreign affairs, Branislav Ikonovic, chairman of the Executive Council of the Assembly of Serbia, Admiral Branko Mamula, federal secretary for national defence, Jon Srbovan, a member of the Federal Executive Council, Milenko Bojanic, federal secretary for foreign trade, Vlado Janzic, executive secretary of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Miloiko Drulovic, Yugoslavia's ambassador to the USSR, and other officials.

The seeing-off party included Nikolay Rodionov, Soviet ambassador to Yugoslavia.

The Soviet officials, who had accompanied Nikolay Tikhonov during the visit, left for Moscow together with him.

Messages Sent During Flight

LD251240 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Belgrade March 25 -- Nikolay Tikhonov has sent a message to Milka Planinc from aboard the plane, which runs:

Leaving the boundaries of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, I express cordial gratitude to you, the Federal Executive Council, the Yugoslav people for the friendly reception and attention accorded to us during our stay in your country.

We express deep satisfaction with the results of the Soviet-Yugoslav negotiations, aimed at further development of the relations of close mutually-beneficial cooperation and friendship between the parties, the governments and the peoples of our socialist countries.

We wish you and all the fraternal peoples of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia great successes in socialist construction, in the struggle for peace and progress in the whole world.

Flying over the territory of Hungary on his way home, Nikolay Tikhonov sent a message to First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Janos Kadar, President of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian Peoples Republic Pal Losonczi, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian Peoples Republic Gyorgy Lazar, conveying to them and the Hungarian people as a whole fraternal greetings and wishes of further successes in implementation of plans of socialist construction, in consolidation of peace.

Met by Aliyev, Gromyko, Rusakov

LD251349 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] We have just received a report that Comrade Tikhonov has arrived in Moscow. At the airport he was met by Comrades Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council Of Ministers; Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR foreign minister; Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials.

MARCHUK MEETS HUNGARIAN INDUSTRY STATE SECRETARY

PM251011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] On 22 March G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received A. Juhasz, state secretary of the Hungarian Industry Ministry. Questions of the further expansion of scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Hungary were discussed.

PRAVDA CORRESPONDENTS ASSESS EEC SESSION

Drobkov, Yakhontov, Maslennikov

LD231448 Moscow TASS in English 0728 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 23 TASS -- The leaders of the "Ten" have again failed to outline a way towards resolving acute differences, Vladislav Drobkov, PRAVDA's correspondent in Brussels points out in his dispatch.

The latest EEC session, he points out, has been held at the time of an unprecedented sharpening of monetary and financial difficulties among the "Ten". For the first time ever the parities of all the national currencies of the countries belonging to the European Monetary System have been changed.

Considerable differences have also cropped up in relations between the "Common Market" and its leading partners, above all, the USA. As British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym said in Brussels, a sharpening of tensions between the EEC and the USA on problems of farm produce exports had been discussed at the council session, but the leaders of the "Ten" had failed to draft any decisions. This is fresh proof of the continuing disunity among the EEC partners in face of a trade threat from the overseas.

The participants in the Brussels session were also disunited on the issue of the communitys budgetary reform, the correspondent writes. They have failed to reach agreement even on the problem of ultimately fixing the size of the British donation to the EEC treasury for a long period.

Almost all the newspapers in the FRG, writes Yuriy Yakhontov, PRAVDA's correspondent in Bonn, describe the change in the mark exchange rate within the European Monetary System "as a political settlement" designed to save it from a possible collapse. In this a decisive role is assigned to Bonn, which is claimed to "make a sacrifice".

In commenting on the Brussels decision, the correspondent writes, most newspapers consider it to be only breathing space, which will inevitably be followed by new financial upheavals.

PRAVDA's correspondent in London Arkadiy Maslennikov writes that British economists and stockbrokers are skeptical about the agreement concluded in Brussels on a change in the rate of the currency of the member-countries of the European Monetary System. Many local commentators are drawing attention to the fact, the correspondent writes, that the "concessions" to Paris registered in the agreement in the form of a 5.5 percent revaluation of the West German mark will have to be paid by France itself, in the final analysis.

Potapov Assessment

LD241624 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2245 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 24 Mar (TASS) -- The session of the European Council in Brussels at the level of heads of states and governments of the "Common Market" has adopted a compromise, reached by the finance ministers of eight out of the ten (apart from Britain and Greece) countries of the community, which are part of the European Monetary System (EMS). In accordance with their decision the French franc, the Italian lira and the Irish pound were devalued. The remaining currencies were revalued, Vladimir Potapov writes in PRAVDA today. The parity between the West German mark and the French franc changed more strongly than any other. (The rate of the mark in relation to the franc already went up on the Paris Stock Exchange by 3.5 percent on 22 March.)

With the introduction of the EMS in 1979, the WALL STREET JOURNAL wrote, the FRG took upon itself the fundamental role in the West Europe currency area. The victory of the right-wing parties in the parliamentary elections consolidated in the eyes of monopoly capital the role of the mark as its chief support on the continent. The French franc became the main object of pressure, as the Reagan administration did not like the process of transformation begun in France by the government of the left-wing majority.

The main reason for the currency instability in the world of capital was and remains the excessively high rate of the dollar, the commentary notes. As never before the EMS has turned out to be near to collapse. J. Delors, French minister of economy and finance, indicated the possibility of his country leaving the system "if nothing changes." A compromise was reached, but for how long? The present "levelling out of parties" of currencies in the framework of the EMS constitutes the broadest so far and is the seventh. All this proves that this system has in no way become a "zone of currency stability," able to oppose the increasing pressure from the dollar, however it was presented by the architects of a "united Western Europe." On the contrary, receiving with the creation of the EMS further levers for intervention in the internal financial policy of the states of the Community, monopoly capital is trying to use them for foisting on it a social-economic course that is suitable to itself. This promises further financial upheavals for Western Europe.

MITTERRAND ON ECONOMIC ILLS, GOVERNMENT TASKS

LD241403 Moscow TASS in English 1337 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Paris March 24 TASS -- President of France Francois Mitterrand in his national television appearance dwelt on the economic situation of France and the tasks which face the government after its reorganisation. He emphasised that the policy, which has been conducted since May, 1981, that is after the advent of the left forces to power, is the correct policy since it is necessary for transformation of French society, for elimination of injustices. Despite difficulties, the president said, we have made a headway on the difficult road. In a few months we carried through more reforms and attained more social gains than in the previous 50 years.

For us it is now even more necessary than ever before to emerge victorious in three fronts: in the sphere of unemployment, inflation and foreign trade, said Francois Mitterrand. There are 35 million unemployed in industrial countries, with 13 millions in the United States and 2 millions -- in France. In 14 months unemployment went up by 29 per cent in the FRG, 22 per cent -- in the United States, whereas in France -- by no more than 4 per cent. Restriction of the growth of unemployment called for such a final effort which did not make it possible to reduce inflation promptly enough.

As to inflation, its growth began as far back as in 1973 during the oil crisis, said the president of France. The time has come now to stop the infernal machine of inflation. We won the first battle last year. We got, as a legacy, the 14 per cent pace of growth in inflation and reduced it to less than 10 per cent. But this is insufficient. There is one more evil which undermines us -- the intolerable deficit of our foreign trade and the consecutive debt.

Touching upon the recent municipal elections, the president admitted that though in the second round of the vote "confidence did prevail over doubts", the results of the first round are evidence of anxiety of the French people.

Speaking of the tasks of the just-formed government, Francois Mitterrand said he expected the government to continue the earlier undertaken efforts to lead the country out of the crisis situation as soon as possible. He mentioned reduction in the pace of inflation and restoration of the balance of the countrys foreign trade in the next two years as being among the priority tasks of the new Cabinet.

FURTHER ON SOVIET-SYRIAN TALKS IN DAMASCUS

PM241137 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Strengthening Cooperation"]

[Text] Damascus, 23 Mar -- Talks began today between a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation and the leadership of the Syrian People's Council. M. al-Zuaybi, head of the Syrian side, noted that American imperialism and Israel, in pursuing an anti-Arab policy, seek to strike a blow against the national liberation movement in the Near East and perpetuate the occupation of the seized Arab territories by Tel Aviv. The head of the Syrian parliament gave a high assessment of the treaty on friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Syria. The Syrian people, he said, are grateful to the Soviet Union for its unchanging support for the Arab's just cause.

T. Kh. Koshoyev stressed that the Soviet Union advocates the liberation of the Arab lands occupied by Israel and supports the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for their inalienable rights, including the right to create their own independent state under PLO leadership.

V.I. Yukhin, USSR ambassador to Syria, is taking part in the talks.

SYRIAN PRESS CITED ON SELF-DEFENSE MEASURES

LD251054 Moscow TASS in English 1027 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Damascus March 25 TASS -- The local press strongly condemns the slanderous campaign, which is under way in the West over the measures Syria has adopted to bolster its anti-aircraft defences.

The goal behind the outcry over Syria's legitimate right to self-defence, said the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, is to create a pretext for Israel's further acts of aggression in the Middle East. Syria, which presses for a just and lasting peace in the region, the paper said further, represents one of the main obstacles in the way of capitulatory deals, which Washington and Tel Aviv hope will enable them to perpetuate Israel's occupation of Arab lands and secure U.S. sole domination in the Arab world.

The large batch of upgraded air-to-air missiles, which Washington is going to supply to the Israeli military, noted the Damascus-based newspaper AL-BA'TH, is also intended for use during another aggression against Syria.

The United States, the paper said, is more than an ally for Israel. It is the force guiding the policy of Tel Aviv, which serves imperialist monopolies.

The newspaper TISHRIN emphasised that Israel has now embarked on direct preparations for aggression against Syria. Israeli Defence Minister Arens recently made an inspection tour of the positions of Israeli troops in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley. The occupation troops have considerably reinforced their positions there, preparing to deal a strike at Syrian territory precisely from there.

TISHRIN said in this connection: "The enemies are mistaken if they believe that they will be able to force our country to its knees. Syria, round which all Arab patriotic forces have rallied and which is supported by the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community, will be able to issue a befitting rebuff to the aggressors."

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES IRAQI PARLIAMENTARIANS 24 MAR

LD241812 Moscow TASS in English 1734 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- Alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov received in the Kremlin today a delegation of Iraq's National Council headed by its chairman Na'im Haddad.

The USSR attaches great importance to the development of interparliamentary contacts, one of the important forms of international cooperation, Vasiliy Kuznetsov said. We are confident that the delegation's visit will contribute to the strengthening of friendship and mutual understanding between our peoples. The Soviet Union's foreign policy is subjugated to the main task of ensuring to mankind the conditions for peaceful life and fruitful cooperation, of averting the threat of nuclear war. The Soviet Union declares consistently for a just and all-embracing Middle East settlement for whose achievement the consolidation of unity of the Arab peoples is of special importance in the present-day conditions.

We arrived in the USSR to confirm the striving of the Iraqi people to maintain and strengthen multifaceted ties with the Soviet Union, Na'im Haddad said. The relations of our countries are based on the principles of equality and meet the vital interest of their peoples. The head of the delegation spoke highly of the foreign policy course of the Soviet state. He stressed that the Iraqi people comes out in defence of peace.

GROMYKO MEETS WITH ALGERIAN PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER

LD241731 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Affairs Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko today received personal representative of Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, member of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Front Party, Presidential Adviser Lakhdar Brahimi [name and title as received] who handed over to him Chaldi Bendjedid's message to General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov.

Andrey Gromyko and Lakhdar Brahimi had a conversation which passed in a warm atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The sides exchanged views on some questions of Soviet-Algerian relations.

During the discussion of international problems, special attention was given to the situation in Northern Africa, Mediterranean and the Middle East. Both sides reaffirmed the need to eliminate dangerous seats of tension in those regions, and the existence of close inter-relationship between security of the Mediterranean states and questions of European security.

Analysing the situation in the Middle East, where tension resulting from Israel's aggressive intrigues against Lebanon and other Arab states with support from the United States and other imperialist forces does not abate, the sides stressed that the attempts to substitute separate deals patterned on Camp David for a comprehensive just settlement in the Middle East to benefit the aggressor and on his terms should be opposed by stronger unity of Arab countries and intensification of their support for the Arab people of Palestine.

SOVIET, ALGERIA HEALTH MINISTERS ON COOPERATION

LD242358 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- Cooperation of the USSR and Algeria in the sphere of medicine was highly assessed by health ministers of the two countries. They expressed interest in its further development. Sergey Burenkov and Abderrazak Bouhara signed here today a memorandum on the results of the visit to the USSR by a delegation of the Health Ministry of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic. The sides exchanged the opinions on the development of the health services of the two countries, the prospects of Soviet-Algerian cooperation.

Our stay in the USSR, the talks with the Soviet colleagues were [word indistinct] and useful, Abderrazak Bouhara told a TASS correspondent. We familiarised ourselves with the Soviet system of the health services, which, basing on the principles of social justice, gives free medical aid to every citizen. We visited the Moscow Medical Institute training doctors. Its scopes and the methods of teaching warrant describing that educational establishment a university of medical science.

Developing our cooperation we intend to widen its range. This refers, specifically, to exchanges in the sphere of scientific research, organization of the health services, Abderrazak Bouhara said. It is extremely important that we, medics, strengthen our contacts and thus contribute to the consolidation of friendship between our peoples, he said.

Soviet-Algerian cooperation in medicine has been implemented over many years, said Sergey Burenkov, the USSR health minister. This cooperation has good prospects. It will be widening on the basis of mutual interest of the sides, sincere friendship of the peoples of the USSR and Algeria.

The guests leave Moscow today.

COMMENTARY LAUDS TUNISIAN-ALGERIAN TREATY

LD231907 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Aleksey Zlatorunskiy commentary]

[Excerpts] Observers point out the increase recently in political contacts whose aim, according to the heads of states of the North African countries, is to pave the way for positive changes in that region.

The visit to Tunisia by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, his talks with the Tunisian leaders and the signing of the treaty of fraternity and concord, which is intended to define the relations between the two countries in the coming 20 years, were great events. The importance of the treaty lies in the joint undertakings to ensure mutual security and to give all-round support to the development of equal cooperation and not to sign any other agreements that could harm either side. The treaty does not stipulate the setting up of a closed group; it gives every state the chance to join it, provided that it agrees to its provisions.

Commenting on the treaty, the information media in both countries point out that it can become an important stage in the building of a greater Maghreb, the eternal dream of the peoples of North Africa.

Nevertheless, the importance of the Algerian-Tunisian treaty and the results of the Algerian president's visit to Tunisia are not confined in general only to the relations between the two countries.

This is because each of the two countries has (?established) its stances with regard to issues that are important to the current international situation, such as the struggle for peace and for the liquidation of the effects of the Israeli aggression, particularly against Lebanon. They emphasized the need to consolidate support for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian Arab people under the leadership of PLO, their sole legitimate representative, for the fulfillment of their established rights, including the setting up of an independent state. Tunisia and Algeria both affirmed their adherence to the Fes Arab summit and expressed satisfaction with the results of the Seventh Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi.

Great importance was attached to the situation in the Western Sahara. Both sides positively assessed the recent trends toward a political settlement of this acute issue which the Western countries, primarily the United States, are trying to exploit so as to undermine stability in the Maghreb and to expand their military presence there.

Statements by the Algerian and Moroccan leaders and by the people of Western Sahara, who are struggling for self-determination, also indicate the existence of trends toward a political settlement of the Western Sahara issue. Their statements show that such a settlement could be based on the well-known UN resolutions and also on OAU resolutions.

Commenting on events in the Maghreb, the Algerian paper ASH-SHA'B points out that the possibility of defusing the time bomb, which the colonialists have planted with the aim of dividing the peoples and creating difficulties that impede their development, has now emerged.

U.S. INTENSIFYING POLITICAL PRESSURE ON LEBANON

LD241324 Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- The latest appearance of Habib, the special envoy of the United States President, in the Middle East has been attended by a propaganda clamour, PRAVDA emphasises. The American mass media, specifically, say the Washington emissary allegedly had brought "constructive" proposals designed to settle the Lebanese crisis. However, as Habib's meetings with officials in Beirut have shown, the newspaper remarks, the White House continues operating together with the Tel Aviv ringleaders, expects to perpetuate the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory and to convert that country into another military-political springboard in the Middle East.

The newspaper points out that Washington's political pressure on Lebanon takes place in an atmosphere of intensifying military intervention by the Pentagon in the domestic affairs of that sovereign Arab country. Another group of American military instructors arrived in Lebanon for "training the Lebanese Army". Up to ten warships of the Sixth United States Fleet are constantly anchored off Beirut.

ISRAELI TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON VIEWED

LD242324 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 24 Mar 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] The Lebanese Government has fixed 2 April as the final date for receiving Israel's reply to Lebanon's demand for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the occupied Lebanese territory. As the Lebanese officials have stated, sufficient time has passed for solving this question. However, Israel has been procrastinating on the pretext of needing time to study the proposals of the Washington envoy, Philip Habib, whose mission the Zionist used as a cover for the horrible crimes they have committed in Lebanon.

The question is: What can the American envoy propose that all this time is needed to study his proposals? Furthermore, what is being studied? Is it not evident that all that needs to be discussed is the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from a sovereign country -- Lebanon? Yet it is clear that what is being studied is not the issue. On the contrary, it is how to keep Israeli control over the occupied Lebanese territory and indeed, not only Israeli control but also American control. The United States itself is trying to prolong its stay in this Arab country. There are American Marines in Lebanon. Washington is planning to increase its forces there to several thousand. The banners of the multinational forces are no more than a fig leaf Washington is using to turn Lebanon into one of the American strategic bridgeheads against Syria and other Arab countries.

COMMENT ON U.S. ARMS DELIVERIES TO ISRAEL

LD250057 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] The Pentagon has announced plans to sell 200 air-to-missiles [as heard] of the Sidewinder type to Israel. Here is a commentary from our observer Viktor Olin.

According to the Pentagon's reports, the forthcoming sale of missiles will be the first arms shipment to Israel since it invaded Lebanon last June. And this, apparently, should be construed as Washington's intention to replenish the Israeli arsenal, depleted during its aggression in Lebanon. The aggression in that Arab country last summer looked as a real demonstration of advanced American weapons. Lebanese and Palestinian civilians fell victim to cluster and phosphorous shells, suction and chemical bombs, and the means of their delivery were of American manufacture too. Lebanon in fact became a testing ground for some of the most advanced means of mass destruction.

The Israeli command in Lebanon was certain that its stockpiles of arms and ammunition be replenished at an early call. [sentence as heard] Such certainty was based on the experience of the past years, when the resources used up in wars against the Arabs were made full by Washington immediately and with exceptional generosity. Over the last decades, Israel has received military and economic aid, apart from other [word indistinct], at an annual rate of $2,000 million a year. The Israeli Government's expectations proved fully justified. Although the United States was exposed as a direct accomplice to aggression and genocide in Lebanon, Washington has felt no scruple to allocate record sums in aid to Israel for the 1984 fiscal year. Direct allocations alone reached $2,500 million. The bulk is to be spent on arms. There has been serious concern over the plans to ship Sidewinder missiles to Israel and build up its arsenal. The Israeli authorities do not conceal that they intend to use the considerable part of Lebanon they occupy to exert pressure on another Arab country, Syria, and even launch an armed attack against it. And for this Israel will require another big supply of arms. The Reagan administration has promised to meet its ally's request in full on a hackneyed pretext of protecting its security.

As for defensive measures by Arab countries -- Syria, for one -- they have been termed as threatening peace in the Middle East.

It is not hard to explain such a dangerous course. American and Israeli leaders have always said that they have common goals in the region. As for the means to achieve them, arms are the main one.

'Encouragement of Rapacious Actions'

LD242302 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov.

The Pentagon's intention to provide Tel Aviv with 200 Sidewinder rockets, of which U.S. Congress was notified on Wednesday, is another evidence of Washington's all round encouragement of rapacious actions by its Israeli strategic ally. Such rockets, as well as other types of weaponry, supplied by the United States, including such barbaric weapons as cluster and suction bombs or phosphorous shells, were extensively used by Israel during its aggression in Lebanon. Thousands of Lebanese and Palestinians were killed by these weapons, many cities and settlements were destroyed. Ostentatiously publicising its "peace-making efforts", Washington continued to provide the Israeli aggressor with most advanced weapons.

Discarded now is even that scanty camouflage used by Washington during the height of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

It is reported that the deliveries of Sidewinders will be followed by additional shipments to Tel Aviv of tens of F-16 fighter-bombers. The United States allocates 1.7 billion dollars in the 1984 fiscal year for arms deliveries to Israel.

Reports that the Reagan administration supplies Israeli killers with new consignments of weapons have appeared at a time when they in Washington are doing their utmost to revive the so-called Camp David process and involve into it new Arab countries. At the same time, under the cover of Habib's "mediatory mission", Washington intends to consolidate at new strategic positions in the Middle East.

The deliveries of American rockets and fighter-bombers to Israel show the worth of the supposed differences between Washington and Tel Aviv.

Washington encourages the current Israeli policy of delays applied in Lebanon and Tel Aviv's aspirations to put off the withdrawal of its troops from that country and impose capitulatory terms on Beirut. This is merely a division of labour, for Washington itself hopes to expand its own military presence in Lebanon under such conditions. It is no accident that a big group of American military experts, including notorious "Green Berets", have been sent to that country.

Meanwhile, Israel is toughening a regime of terror and violence on the occupied Arab territories. Mass searches and arrests of the local population are under way in the Jordan West Bank. Israeli occupation authorities resort to rude force to put down the Arabs' will for self-determination and independence, and impose on them so-called "autonomy" infringing the Palestinian people's right to be masters on their land.

Under these conditions, the deliveries of American rockets to Israel look like a prize to the aggressors for the crimes they commit.

COMMENTARY WARNS OF PENTAGON DOCUMENT ON MIDEAST

LD250034 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Commentary by military commentator Petr Nikolayev: "The Pentagon's Dangerous Plans and Actions"]

[Text] UPI has reported the existence of a highly secret document namely, directives in the defense field of the fiscal years 1985-1989 for the Pentagon. Thus, the Pentagon's new document, which indicates the Washington administration's persistence in its course of the arms race, confrontation and international piracy, has been revealed.

Between 1985-1989, the Pentagon intends to allocate an estimated $2 trillion for military purposes. It is worth mentioning that part of the document that concerns the Gulf region, since the Pentagon allocates a large portion of this sum to deploying and arming the U.S. forces in the Gulf region and nearby.

Among the tasks which the Pentagon includes in the document is maintaining the U.S. land and naval presence in the region, enlarging and improving the military bases that are there and increasing the reserve military equipment and arms there.

The authors of the document do not conceal the main aim of the Pentagon. This aim, according to the document, is creating suitable circumstances for the United States so that it will be able to distribute its forces quickly in order to suppress the national liberation movements and to interfere in the internal affairs of Arab countries. The document stipulates in particular that the U.S. forces in the Gulf region must be ready to interfere in the affairs of the countries of the region using the pretext of the so-called danger that threatens the flow of oil to the United States.

The fact is the Pentagon is giving itself the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the Middle East countries under any alleged excuse, especially as the Pentagon document says that there is no need to wait for an invitation from the oil-producing countries. To put it briefly, the Pentagon wants to behave as if the region is but one of its ranches. In this respect, one has to point out the fact that in the new document the Pentagon quite frankly declared the principles and actions of the U.S. Administration which, until recently, used to hide behind various excuses. As the Pentagon new directives show, the U.S. Administration does not deem it necessary to camouflage its aggressive plans toward the Gulf countries.

It is noteworthy that before UPI published the secret Pentagon document, there was a report in the U.S. press regarding the U.S. intention of deploying cruise missiles in Oman in order to block the straits leading to the Gulf and the Red Sea. No doubt the cruise missiles will be deployed in the U.S. bases in Somalia, Sudan, Kenya and at Ba's Banas in Egypt. Now that it has obtained so-called military privileges in these countries, the United States deems it its duty to make use of these so-called privileges. Furthermore, all the above-mentioned countries are within the orbit of the action of the Central Command of the U.S. Armed Forces, Centcom, which became active at the beginning of last January, bearing in mind the fact that Southwest Asia and Northeast Africa, in accordance with the Washington administration's doctrine, are the main strategic region for the United States, in addition to Western Europe and the Near East.

In accordance with these doctrines and concepts, Washington deliberately aggravates tension in the Middle East and the Gulf region so as to cement its military presence there later on. Evidence of this fact is Lebanon, where the United States encouraged Israel first of all to carry out an aggression to establish firm footing on Lebanese territory under the banner of the multinational force.

The Pentagon has yet another goal in this region: The Pentagon generals regard the region as an excellent bridgehead for storming the territories of others, including the Soviet Union and other members of the socialist community. Thus we see that the Pentagon's plan and activity seek to turn the Middle East and the Gulf region into a center of international tension. These being the circumstances, the peoples of the Arab and other countries have to intensify their opposition to the Pentagon's dangerous plans and actions.

MOROCCAN PARTY CONGRESS PROGRAM PREVIEWED

LD250041 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Commentary by Konstantin Andreyev: "A Positive Program"]

[Excerpt] The third national congress of the Moroccan Progress and Socialism Party [PPS] will begin in Casablanca on 25 March.

The congress will be an important event not only in the life of this party but in the life of all the patriotic and national forces in the country as well. The PPS is a party that has inherited the best of the traditions of the Moroccan progressive force, which this year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Moroccan Communist Party. The PPS has gained much influence through its persistent struggle for the vital interests of the working class and all workers; for true democracy, for eliminating social and economic crises, for the consolidation of the political and economic independence of Morocco, and against the imperialist plans that threaten the sovereignty and security of Morocco. Today, the PPS stands as a patriotic force that plays a remarkable role in the social and political life of Morocco.

On the occasion of the convening of the congress, the PPS Central Committee published topics under the headline: For the Democratic Changes [word indistinct] and the Rights of the People. These topics were discussed on a wide scale at the meetings of the active members of the party and in the daily AL-BAYAN. The topics include analyzing the current situation in Morocco, the current complicated international situation and the major tasks facing the PPS and other Moroccan patriotic forces. The PPS [word indistinct] the Moroccan masses, which are suffering various burdens of the acute economic and social crisis that exists in Morocco [words indistinct] a sound demand for the necessary changes. This program demands the nationalization of the main sectors of the economy; the consolidation of the public sector; using private capital in the interest of developing the national economy; agricultural and [word indistinct] reform measures; promoting of the systems of social security and public health, education and vocational training; and the (?freezing) and supervision of prices.

The task of Morocco stopping the importation of [word indistinct] was also raised; the need to expand external trade relations with the socialist countries was stressed. These subjects guide the party toward the struggle for the interests of the workers, the establishment of the united front of the progressive forces, the preservation and expansion of democratic freedoms and the consolidation of the economic and political independence of Morocco. [Words indistinct] the program that is contained in the subjects of the PPC Central Committee, when approved by the congress, will be a [word indistinct] program for the party. The subjects and the articles in AL-BAYAN show that the congress will attach great importance to matters concerning party-building. The PPC calls for making the PPC a party of the masses; consolidating its relations with the working class, peasants and progressive intellectuals; promoting action at trade unions and among youths and women; mobilizing the popular masses in the struggle for peace, detente and disarmament and against the intrigues of imperialism, Zionism and neocolonialism; and for [words indistinct] Arab patriots. The congress will bear in mind the fact that they will meet in the circumstances of an aggravated international situation resulting from attempts by U.S. and NATO military circles that seek to destroy the strategic balance in the world and wage a vast campaign against the forces of peace, socialism, democracy and national independence.

USSR-YAR TREATY ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED

LD241136 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Vladimir (Bilyakhin) commentary: "The 19th Anniversary of the Soviet-YAR Friendship Treaty"]

[Excerpt] Soviet-Yemeni relations have good and long-standing traditions. These relations were established more than half a century ago, that is to say, in 1928, when diplomatic relations were established and the first treaty of friendship and trade was signed between the Soviet Union and the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR].

At the time this event was highly significant as far as the Yemeni state was concerned, as it protected its political and economic independence from attempts by the big imperialist states to subjugate this Arab country. Clauses of the first friendship treaty between the Soviet Union and the YAR, which was signed in 1955, have been developed and expanded. The Soviet Union was one of the first states to recognize the YAR when it was established in September 1962 following the downfall of the monarchical regime. The Soviet Union supported the republic and rendered assistance for the defense of the republican regime against the conspiracies of enemies inside and outside the country.

The September revolution in the YAR gave a new momentum to the development of Soviet-Yemeni relations, making them comprehensive. These positive changes in the relations between the two states were reflected in a new treaty of friendship between the Soviet Union and the YAR concluded in 1964. This treaty reaffirmed the principles of equality, mutual respect, sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs, as well as mutual benefit as the bases of Soviet-Yemeni cooperation.

The Soviet Union today renders great assistance to the YAR in solving a complicated task -- overcoming economic and social backwardness. With Soviet cooperation, significant economic projects have been established in the YAR such as the Hudaydah deepwater sea port, the Hudaydahta'izz highway, the cement factory in Bajil and so forth. The Soviet Union renders assistance in the development of agriculture and the training of Yemeni national cadres. Trade relations between the two countries are being successfully developed. Soviet social organizations have sent to the Yemeni Red Crescent Society medical supplies, clothing, children's food, blankets, and so forth as an expression of the Soviet people's sympathies toward the people of the YAR who were the victims of the severe earthquake that took place last December.

The developing relations between the two countries in various spheres consolidate the identity or proximity of stances of both the Soviet Union and the YAR toward the urgent issues, including the struggle for peace and international detente, halting the arms race and the peaceful solution of international disputes. Concerning the Middle East, the Soviet Union and the YAR call for a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the establishment of just and permanent peace in the region, and the recognition of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Both countries work against imperialist attempts to increase the imperialist presence in the region.

UZBEK SSR ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH YAR NOTED

GF220550 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 21 Mar 83

[Text] The 19th anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-YAR friendship treaty is marked on 21 March -- that is to say, the signing of a new agreement for economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. In addition to the port of Hudaydah, a powerplant, a cement factory and asphalted roads have been constructed in the YAR with Soviet aid.

The UZBEK SSR is also participating together with other Soviet republics in various economic cooperation ventures between the two countries. Uzbek experts are helping YAR farmers in the field of cultivating cotton. They are also supplying the YAR with various types of agricultural machinery, including tractors and cotton harvesting combines. The Uzbek SSR is also giving significant aid to the YAR in its effort to prepare its national cadres. Youths from the YAR are studying in university boarding houses and technical schools in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbek SSR.

Meanwhile, the Uzbek agricultural machinery factory has succeeded in [words indistinct]. It has exported a consignment of tractors to the YAR for (?picking) cotton, sowing seeds and [words indistinct].

It is worth mentioning that there is a big demand in the world for the technical machinery produced by the Uzbek machinery workers in the agricultural field. Considering the reliability and (?convenient usage) of these machines, foreign companies are placing big orders for the products of Uzbek machinery workers. The agricultural machinery produced by Uzbek factories are currently exported to over 30 foreign countries.

BAKU RADIO DECRIES ANTI-SOVIET CAMPAIGN IN IRAN

GF231700 Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Entering the Year 1362"]

[Summary] Dear listeners, on the occasion of Nowruz [Iranian new year], we wish you all health and happiness. In fact, we wish progress and a happy future to the 38 million Iranian people. The people of Baku harbor deep respect toward the life of the capable and toiling people of Iran; they rejoice over the Iranian people's achievements and happiness. However, as sincere friends, they wholeheartedly grieve over the Iranian people's difficulties and worries.

"We know well that the Iranian people have observed the new year of 1362 [1983-1984] under conditions of prosperity. Meanwhile, world imperialism headed by the United States is endeavoring to destroy the republican order in Iran -- regardless of the support extended to it by influential powers in the region -- by urging the instrumental reactionary Iraqi regime into Iranian soil with a view to bringing political economic and [word indistinct] pressure to bear on your country. The establishment in the Middle East of a U.S. Central Command and the setting up of military bases around Iran constitute an example of the intentions harbored by U.S. imperialism. This Central Command has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of 19 regional countries, including Iran. Undoubtedly, the main responsible element for the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war, which has resulted in the deaths of thousands of people and has cost tens of billions of dollars on both sides, is U.S. imperialism. In fact, it was the wish of Washington to openly lure Iran's neighbors, Pakistan and Turkey, into disputing with Iran. Through U.S. mediation, large-scale plans are being put into effect in the military field in both countries and military bases are being set up. (?It is no coincidence that all these are) taking place near the borders of Iran.

"Meanwhile, the imperialist circles which have put into effect the policy of preparing for the destruction of the Iranian revolution -- with the United States in the forefront -- have vested great hopes in the reactionary circles operating within Iran. These circles, which are conservative and very much rightwing oriented, are approaching Iran's compradors and [word indistinct] bourgeoisie and are endeavoring to launch offensives with a view to usurping power, destroying the revolutionary forces and securing the return of foreign monopolies into Iran."

The past year has proved that the abovementioned forces are capable enough of preventing the implementation of laws passed by the Majlis regarding reforms and the nationalization of Iran's foreign trade. Such developments undoubtedly cause the imperialists to rejoice.

"Meanwhile, the widely spread neither East nor West policy of these circles is manifesting itself as a very vulgar anti-Soviet policy, which is being converted into a struggle against socialist countries, which have on numerous occasions defended the people of Iran and acted as their close friends.

"As for remarks made in connection with the struggle against terrorism and agents, they have been directed against (?progressive forces) and the leadership of the Tudeh Party which support the continuation of the revolutionary (?trend) in the country."

The case of former Iranian Foreign Affairs Minister Qotbzadeh is an example which can be taken to undertand who is spearheading the struggle against leftist forces and Soviet-Iran friendship. As for the policy pursued by the Soviet Union toward Iran, it was clearly outlined in the 26th CPSU Congress. "The 26th congress states that the Iranian people are advancing on an illuminated path toward progress. We sincerely wish them well in the direction they have taken and inform them that we are preparing to develop our relations with Iran on the basis of equality or rights and reciprocity. On the occasion of this day, the Soviet people convey their sincerest regards to the Iranian people."

EGYPTIAN 'RELIGIOUS TERRORISTS' TO BE TRIED

LD251108 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1950 GMT 24 Mar 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Viktor Mikheyev]

[Text] Cairo: Egypt's state security procurator's office has decided to hand over to the courts the cases of another 176 members of the Al-Jihad religious terrorist organization. According to AL-AHRAM they are accused of attempting a coup d'etat in Egypt. The paper notes that 11 of the accused are still hiding from security organs.

BRIEFS

FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION IN TUNISIA -- Tunisia March 17 TASS -- President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia today received in the Carthage Palace the President of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Ties with Foreign Countries Zinayda Kruglova. During the conversation that passed in a friendly atmosphere they discussed questions of further developing and expanding relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Tunisia, in particular along the line of public organisations. It was noted that in the present complex international situation is of much importance for ensuring the cause of peace on earth and averting the danger of war. Zinayda Kruglova today was also received by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and met with Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 17 Mar 83 LD]

IZVESTIYA CONTRASTS U.S., SOVIET AFRICA POLICIES

PM241305 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Voice of Africa"]

[Excerpt] The imperialist octopus still threatens the African Continent and other developing countries with its grasping tentacles. Here are some figures: The developing countries' balance of payments deficits and the burden of their debts have doubled since 1979, totaling $100 billion and $600 billion respectively. Developing countries are receiving less for what they produce and paying more to the West for the industrial goods they import. The still substantial economic adversities facing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America are imperialism's fault.

That is why the developing countries' peoples resolutely demand a radical restructuring of international economic relations. They are against imperialist exploitation. They are fully determined to release their natural wealth from the chains of the transnational monopolies. They do not want Africa to remain the West's "richest storehouse."

Yes, the tocsin of liberation is now sounding all over Africa. But the path of the African peoples' struggle for complete freedom and independence is thorny and complex. There are forces in the world which would like to muffle the freedom bell. The peoples of Africa realize that. They can see for themselves how their continent is constantly in the sights of imperialist military blocs. The United States, which has a lamentable "history" of relations with the "dark continent," represents a particular danger for Africa. Let us recall how whole convoys of ships left Africa for America's shores, their holds full of slaves. The 15 southern states of North America were slave-owning states. The "theorists" of slavery stated frankly that "slavery was the basis of American prosperity."

Armed expeditions were sent to seize slaves. Forts were erected on Africa's shores and the slaves were taken there. It is useful to recall history, the more so as some people in the United States would like to repeat it. Today American imperialism entertains plans for the military penetration of the African Continent wherein the role of the "armed expeditions" is assigned to the "Rapid Deployment Force" and a whole network of the most up-to-date military bases is to take the place of the former "forts." Washington wants to take the African Continent under the sinister wing of "Centcom" -- a new military bloc [as published] designed to establish U.S. domination over an extensive zone of the world, including the African Continent. The United States is eager for Arab oil, South African uranium, Namibian copper and diamonds. Its aim is to fetter Africa with a ring of military and economic domination and turn the whole continent into a slave serving U.S. "vital interests."

But history is on the march. It cannot be stopped, and the firm march of the African people cannot be stopped. They have many millions of friends, sincere, reliable friends who have extended the hand of equal cooperation to the Africans and opened their hearts, paying a tribute of respect to the African's courage, love of freedom and national dignity.

The African peoples see just such a friend in the Soviet Union. The processes of Africa's liberation began under the influence of the ideas of Great October. The African countries' historical gains are directly associated with the constant, effective support for national liberation forces on the part of the land of the Soviets, the other socialist community states and all detachments of the international revolutionary movement.

The Soviet Union's cooperation with the awakened countries of Africa is growing and strengthening from day to day. Fruitful contacts in the political, economic and cultural sphere between the first country of victorious socialism and states which have embarked on a path of independent development have become permanent. Summit meetings are also traditional. S. Machel, chairman of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and president of Mozambique, was in the Soviet Union recently.

A visit to our country by A.S. Jallud, member of the revolutionary leadership of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, ended the other day. The meetings and talks between Soviet leaders and representatives of friendly states again displayed our mutual resolve to fight for the strengthening of peace and the peoples' security in the face of the growing aggressiveness of the forces of imperialism and reaction, colonialism and neocolonialism, racist apartheid and Zionism.

TETERKIN ON ISRAEL-SOUTH AFRICA COOPERATION

LD160039 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 15 Mar 83

[Vyacheslav Teterkin commentary]

[Text] Israeli Finance Minister Yoram Aridor visited South Africa at the beginning of March. A number of agreements on expanding trade and economic cooperation were signed between the two regimes, equally hostile to the national liberation movement in Africa and the Middle East.

The two regimes cooperate in various fields. Both Pretoria and Tel Aviv seem to attach special importance to military cooperation, which strengthens their potential in the struggle against national liberation movements. Today over 70 percent of Israeli arms exports go to South Africa. In violation of the international embargo on arms sales, the racists are getting Israeli missiles, aircraft, antiaircraft guns and electronic equipment. Israeli military advisers and instructors are helping to prepare armed attacks on South African commandos against Angola, Mozambique and other states. Thousands of civilians have fallen victim to these raids. In their turn South African military men have taken direct part in the anti-Arab wars waged by Israel.

The cooperation of Pretoria and Tel Aviv in the nuclear sphere is most dangerous. In exchange for South African uranium, Israel is supplying Pretoria with the nuclear technology it is getting from imperialist powers, primarily the United States. The magazine SESHABA of the African National Congress, South Africa, has said that nuclear weapons in the hands of South Africa and Israel will become an instrument of blackmail and direct political and military pressure on independent states.

The United States encourages Israel and South Africa to unite their efforts. In a bid to establish control over the natural resources of Africa and the Middle East, Washington is openly staking on crude military strength. That is why it needs such allies as Israel and South Africa, which are using force to suppress national liberation movements. Therefore, the report sounds quite probable that the United States, Israel and South Africa have signed a secret military agreement providing for tests of American Tomahawk cruise missiles on South African territory and the future deployment of such missiles there for an indefinite period of time. It has become known that Israel and South Africa are intensively working to make their own cruise missiles with a range of action of 1,500 km, a neutron bomb and various delivery systems.

The aggressive aspirations of Israel and South Africa are apparent. They are rebuffed by everyone who cherishes peace and the security of nations.

ANDROPOV MEETS WITH NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA 25 MAR

LD251104 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting here today with Daniel Ortega, a member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and coordinator of the steering council of the National Reconstruction Government of Nicaragua who is staying in Moscow en route to Managua after taking part in the 7th conference of the heads of state and government of the non-aligned countries in New Delhi.

Discussed during their conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding, were questions of Soviet-Nicaraguan relations as well as some international problems.

Yuriy Andropov noted that the Soviet Union regarded with great sympathies the effort of the friendly Nicaraguan people to ensure economic and social transformation of their country, and rendered to them political support and material assistance in that. Daniel Ortega informed Yuriy Andropov how Nicaragua was tackling national economic and social tasks, and expressed deep gratitude for the effective solidarity displayed by the Soviet Union.

Daniel Ortega spoke about the course and the main results of the conference of nonaligned countries in New Delhi. The participants in the meeting spoke highly of these results and stressed the great significance of the Nonaligned Movement in the present conditions, it principled position on vital questions of war and peace, the struggle for averting the threat of nuclear war, for disarmament, for mutually beneficial and equal cooperation between countries, for ensuring the right of peoples to independent development.

Considerable attention was given to questions of the situation in Central America, first of all from the angle of the dangerous policy being pursued by the United States which by all means seeks to prevent the peoples of the area from determining their future themselves. In this connection Daniel Ortega spoke of the actions of the Armed Forces of Nicaragua and all Nicaraguan people to repulse the recent intrusion of counter-revolutionary invaders into the country, invaders that rely on foreign imperialism's direct support. He emphasised that the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua has all necessary resources to defend the motherland and to rout the invaders.

Daniel Ortega also said that the Nicaraguan Government is consistently pressing for a just political settlement in El Salvador as well as for dialogue in the interests of resolving other problems existing in that region.

Yuriy Andropov expressed the conviction that Nicaragua will be able to uphold its freedom and independence and declared the sincere solidarity of the Soviet Union, of all Soviet people with the Nicaraguan people in their just cause.

Andrey Aleksandrov, an assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, sat in on the meeting.

ACCUSATIONS BY NICARAGUAN DEFENSE MINISTER NOTED

PM240959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Armed Provocation Against Nicaragua"]

[Text] Managua, 22 Mar -- The Reagan administration has organized a major military provocation against revolutionary Nicaragua, using armed groups of Somozist cutthroats trained in the United States.

This was stated here at a press conference by Humberto Ortega, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and Nicaragua's minister of national defense.

He announced that major formations of Somozaists, armed with modern U.S. weapons, have been transported to Nicaraguan territory from Honduras with direct CIA involvement. In total, some 1,200 counterrevolutionaries have penetrated into Nueva Segovia Department and the northern regions of Jinotega Department and are committing bloody crimes against the Nicaraguan people. Another Somozaist group, numbering about 200, attempted to break through into the country's central regions but was halted in Matagalpa Department.

The new armed action by imperialism, the defense minister noted, has encountered strong resistance by the Nicaraguan people. The fighters of the Sandinist People's Army and the state security organs have surrounded the counterrevolutionary formations and are engaged in operations to destroy them. During armed clashes so far about 300 Somozaists have been put out of action and large quantities of U.S.-made weapons and ammunition belonging to them have been captured.

The main danger, H. Ortega indicated, lies in the fact that the United States could use the Somozaists' actions to provoke an armed conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras, which actively supports the counterrevolutionaries and airlifts combat supplies to them. The Honduran regime has concentrated troops in the regions bordering on Nicaragua's Chinandega Department. On the CIA's orders the counterrevolutionary leaders have announced in Honduras their intention to form a so-called "provisional government" and ask "friendly" countries for help.

The escalation of aggressive U.S. actions against the Nicaraguan revolution. H. Ortega stressed, is a basic component of the Reagan administration's criminal plan aimed at unleashing bloody war in Central America.

The armed invasion of Nicaraguan territory is the result of subversive activity by the U.S. CIA, which has knocked the fragmented Somozaist gangs together into a regular army, equipped with the modern weapons, communications facilities and transport helicopters, L. Serna, chief of Nicaragua's state security agency, declared at the press conference. In the region where the gangs are based on Honduran territory, he stressed, the United States has set up a military infrastructure consisting of camps, headquarters, military training centers and supply dumps. The Somozaist cutthroats' actions are directed by U.S. and Israeli military advisers.

The invasion of the republic's territory by Somozaist gangs, the appeal to the Nicaraguan people by the Government of National Reconstruction emphasizes, has proved to be a new stage in the U.S. military, political and economic aggression against the Sandinist revolution. The Reagan administration is making attempts to isolate Nicaragua from Latin America and is exerting pressure on international financial centers to deprive it of credits.

Nicaragua's revolutionary government, the document points out has at its disposal all means to defend the motherland and crush the counterrevolutionary rabble.

U.S.-UK EXERCISES TO 'INTIMIDATE' NICARAGUA

LD241400 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 24 TASS -- The U.S. is pursuing a policy of further escalation of tension in Central America: It has started provocative naval exercises in the Caribbean Sea.

A new major militaristic action is carried out under the smokescreen of joint British-American exercises, in which, according to a representative of the Pentagon, 300 U.S. war planes and 36 major warships participate, including three U.S. aircraft carriers, the British aircraft carrier "Invincible" and three nuclear submarines.

A representative of the U.S. Defense Department said that these exercises are to stress once again the importance of the Caribbean region and to reiterate mutual committments of the allies.

The naval exercises in the Caribbean reflect the growing concern of the Reagan administration over the situation in Central America, a U.S. television commentator pointed out.

It is noteworthy that this demonstration of force off the shores of Central America coincided with an armed provocation against Nicaragua perpetrated by Somoza gangs with the assistance of the CIA. Latin American observers believe that these exercises are an open attempt to intimidate the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua and to stimulte the counterrevolutionary gangs, armed and trained by the CIA, to new crimes against the Nicaraguan people.

SHULTZ DEMANDS MORE MONEY FOR EL SALVADOR

LD232103 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 23 Mar 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] Right at a time when the whole world is indignant at the bandit-like attack of U.S. mercenaries against Nicaragua, at a time like this, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz addressed one of the subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations Committee and made a demand to the effect that the legislature rubberstamp the decision on additional military appropriations for El Salvador amounting to $110 million as fast as possible. [Video shows Shultz addressing subcommittee] in order to justify Washington's Central American policies, the U.S. secretary of state resorted for the umpteenth time to malicious concoctions about the Soviet Union and Cuba. Shultz made so bold as to call revolutionary Nicaragua, a country that fell victim to aggression and the country where the blood of women, old men and children is being split, nothing other than a base for exporting oppression.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC GREETED ON NATIONAL DAY

PM221051 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent S.J. Blanco, president of the Dominican Republic, a telegram in connection with the country's Independence Day national holiday, conveying congratulations and wishes for success and prosperity to the friendly Dominican people.

The president of the Dominican Republic expressed gratitude for the congratulations in a reply telegram.

POLITBURO OF CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETS 24 MAR

LD241710 Moscow TASS in English 1655 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 24 TASS -- The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee has heard at its regular meeting information about the conference of secretaries of the central committees of communist and workers' parties of socialist countries in Moscow on March 14-15, 1983, and approved the results of that conference.

The Politbureau considered further development and improvement of communal services to the population. A resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted on this question outlines a broad range of measures to implement the party's social policy and the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the May and November (1982) plenary meetings of the Central Committee in improving the organisation and raising the standards of communal services to the working people. Provisions are made for extending such services as repairs of radio and T.V. sets, household machinery and instruments, home repairs, washing, dry cleaning and renting of durables.

Objectives are set for increasing the batch production of machines, instruments and means of mechanization for communal service establishments, for a more effective use of the facilities of those establishments and strengthening their material and technical base. The network of organizations and reception centres of communal services in the countryside, at mills, factories, construction sites and hostels will be expanded. The training of personnel for communal service centres will be improved, and housewives, pensioners and students will be drawn on a larger scale at them for work on a shorter working day.

The Politbureau of the Central Committee has stressed the need for increasing the efforts by the party, soviet, economic, trade union and Young Communist League organizations for perfecting all sections of the communal services for the population and meeting the demand of the Soviet people even more fully.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee heard reports by Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Zia Nuriyev, Ministers Valentin Mesyats, Viktor Polyakov, Viktor Fedorov and Pavel Finogenov, chairmen of state committees Leonid Khitrov and Talgat Khuramshin about the preparation for field work of powerful tractors, type K-700. The heads of ministries and committees are facing the task of completing shortly the repair of these tractors and sharply improving the supplies of spares and fuel and lubricants for them.

Local party and soviet bodies are instructed to intensify control over the preparation of powerful tractors for spring sowing, persistently enhance responsibility of cadres for the quality of operation and repair of agricultural machinery.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee discussed the proposals, drawn up by the Council of Ministers of the USSR, on speeding up the construction of irrigation systems in Altay territory to increase the production of grain. For this purpose it is intended to carry out a big volume of work to improve land and to put land to agricultural use. Assignments were set for the construction of a production base as well as of housing and social service facilities. It is planned to create in the territory zones of guaranteed production of high-yielding fodder crops.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee approved the results of the working visit of member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, Minister of Defence of the USSR Dmitriy Ustinov to the Hungarian Peoples Republic.

The meeting of the Political Bureau also discussed some other questions connected with the strengthening of the cooperation of socialist countries and the implementation of the peaceloving foreign policy course of the Soviet state.

FEDORCHUK ADMITS ODESSA MILITIA ACTED WRONGLY

LD240050 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Commentary by Vladimir Pozner]

[Excerpt] On 19 January 1983 -- That's just about 2 months ago -- the national weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA came out with a story by its correspondent Yuriy Shchekochikhin entitled "After the Storm." The author brings up the case of a man living in Odessa against whom criminal proceedings were begun unjustly. The author put the blame squarely at the doorstep of the Odessa police -- or militia, as we say here -- and attacked them from virtually top to bottom for a whole variety of things, including superficial judgment, lack of objective outlook, ignorance of the law, and so on and so forth. The article created quite a stir.

Some 2,000 readers of the gazette wrote in expressing indignation at the conduct of the law and order forces and demanding that they be punished, and that their wrongs be set right. The gazette used many of those letters to print special press bulletins on the subject that were then sent to the organizations, ministries and government and public offices that were in one or another way connected with law and order.

On the front page of the paper's 23 March issue the present minister of the interior of the USSR, Fedorchuk -- that is, the person who heads the country's entire law and order force, answered both the newspaper and its readers. He starts out by admitting that a careful study of the case proved the paper to be right. He then informs us that as a result of the full-scale investigation launched by the ministry, all culprits responsible for what happened were punished. And thus three top militia officials were fired in Odessa, one was demoted, six received serious reprimands. The affair was brought to the public eye and served as a subject of discussions at open meetings in Odessa and elsewhere. That, in short, is the story -- how it began, what happened, and how it ended.

Now, I'm sure that not one American in a million could even imagine such a thing being possible in the Soviet Union. But what I want to ask really is this: How possible would it be in the United States? How often have you heard of a paper going after the police chief and the entire police department of a very large city and as a result -- and this is what I want to underline -- having, say, the director of the FBI publicly apologize on its pages and admit that the police were wrong and inform the readership concerning the measures taken?

ISSUES EXAMINED BY SUPREME COURT PLENUM REPORTED

PM241323 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Mar 83 First Edition p 6

[TASS report] "USSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] A routine USSR Supreme Court plenum has been held under the chairmanship of L.N. Smirnov.

There was an examination of the courts' application of the law regulating the material responsibility of workers and employees for damage caused to an enterprise, institution or organization and of enhancing the courts' role in preventing violations of the law on protecting socialist property.

Reports were delivered by A.N. Yakimenko, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Court; I.P. Misyunas, chairman of the Lithuanian SSR Supreme Court; and A.F. Demyanenko, member of the USSR Supreme Court.

The plenum demanded that the supreme courts of union and autonomous republics, krays and oblasts, city courts and rayon people's courts pay great attention to the examination of cases in the above-mentioned category and that they enhance the role of the courts in strengthening state, labor and executive discipline and in the economical expenditure and thrifty treatment of the people's property.

The plenum discussed the question of the courts' practical application of the law on criminal responsibility for violations of the rules of trade.

The courts' attention was drawn to existing shortcomings: It was proposed that there be a more frequent examination of cases in the given category at circuit court sessions with the participation of representatives of social organizations and labor collectives, that in each case of violation of trade rules the causes and conditions which promoted the commission of the crime should be carefully brought to light, and that there be an appropriate response to them with the aim of intensifying the monitoring of the observance of the procedure and rules governing the provision of trade service for the population by the appropriate leaders.

A report was delivered on the activity of the USSR Supreme Court's legal collegium on civil cases.

Appropriate resolutions were adopted on the questions under discussion.

There was an examination of appeals on specific cases made by the chairman of the USSR Supreme Court and the USSR procurator general.

Taking part in the plenum's work were T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.A. Bazhenov, USSR first deputy procurator general; and A.Ya. Sukharev, USSR first deputy justice minister.

PRAVDA REPORT ON IDEOLOGY CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

PM181607 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report under the general heading: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] An all-union conference of ideological workers has been held in Moscow with the participation of secretaries of union republic communist party central committees, kraykoms, and obkoms and leaders of a number of ministries, departments, public organizations, mass news and propaganda media, and creative unions.

The report "Improving Ideological and Agitprop Work" was delivered by M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

It was pointed out at the conference that party committees are taking measures to improve ideological and mass political work in the light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee's November (1982) plenum and the propositions and conclusions contained in the speech of Yu.A. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at that plenum, in the report "Sixty Years of the USSR" and in the article "The Teaching of Karl Marx and Some Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR." The efforts of party committees are now aimed at strengthening propaganda's link with life and developing socialist competition for improved social production efficiency, work quality and labor productivity. The conference devoted special attention to ensuring that propaganda and agitation are conducted concretely and convincingly, are closely coordinated with the CPSU's socioeconomic policy, are truthful and realistic, interesting and intelligible and convey freshness of thought and word.

It emphasized the importance of forming a scientific world outlook in Soviet people and educating them in the spirit of selfless devotion to the party's cause, Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, the unbreakable friendship of the USSR's peoples and uncompromising struggle against any manifestations of bourgeois ideology and morality and antipodes of the socialist way of life.

The participants exchanged work experience and made a number of proposals on deepening the content and increasing the effectiveness of ideological and political education work.

Participating in the work of the conference were B.I. Stukalin, S.V. Chervonenko and V.F. Shauro, chiefs of CPSU Central Committee departments; V.M. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol central committee; USSR ministers and responsible workers of the CPSU Central Committee.

DEPUTIES WRITE TO IZVESTIYA ON CONSUMER GOODS

LD192245 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 19 Mar 83

[From the IZVESTIYA review]

[Text] A group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and members of standing committees of the Supreme Soviet chambers dealing with matters of public consumption and trade has addressed a letter to the editors which analyzes the degree to which the population's requirement for high-quality consumer goods is satisfied. The deputies give reasons which prevent the solution of problems encountered in this area. These include the absence of order in planning, the shortcomings in the construction of installations for light industry and the food industry, and the shortage of raw materials. However, consumers do not simply need goods, the letter says. They need excellent goods which meet the spirit of the times, the increased demands, and the potential of the Soviet people.

In publishing this letter, the editors invite the paper's readers, people's deputies, workers in industry, and in the sphere of services and trade to participate in a discussion of vital questions concerning the further improvement of quality and the expansion of output of consumer goods.

PAPER REMINDS OFFICIALS TO RESPOND TO CRITICISM

WA251500 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Mar 83 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Let Us Remind You!" published boxed and in boldfaced type]

[Text] The editorial staff has not received an answer from the Novosibirsk City Party Committee to the publication "Called to a Conference" (4 Jan 83). The USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry is silent, "not having noticed" the article "Where is the Fisherman's Luck?" The USSR Ministry of the Automobile Industry, the Ulyanovsk City Party Committee and the Ulyanovsk automobile factory party committee have taken a similar position, not having sent answers to the article "The View From the Side of the Road" (9 Jan 83). Unknown to the editors, too, is the opinion of the RSFSR Ministry of Trade, which has not reacted to the appearance of "All Hands to the Rescue" (16 Feb 83), and also the decision of Soyuzpechat and the Moscow Administration of Urban Registration and Advertising to the report from the operation "Losses at the Newsstand" (20 Feb 83).

COURSES HELD FOR TOP MANAGEMENT ECONOMIC CADRES

PM241205 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Instruction of Leading Economic Cadres"]

[Text] Study courses for enhancing the qualifications of leading economic cadres in the top management echelon in agroindustrial complex sectors have been held at the Institute for the Management of the National Economy of the Academy of the National Economy under the USSR Council of Ministers.

Leaders of USSR and union republic ministries and departments, general directors of associations and major enterprises in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, fruit and vegetable growing, procurement, land reclamation and water resources, and agricultural machine building, the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, the Ministry of Machine Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, Transport and Communications, the Light and Food Industry, trade and consumer services and planning and finance organs studied -- following special programs -- topical questions relating to the theory and practice of Marxist-Leninist communist building, the improvement of management, planning and the economic mechanism, and the improvement of the style and methods of leadership of the economy in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress, the CPSU Central Committee's May and November (1982) plenums, and the instructions and conclusions contained in the speeches by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Questions of accelerating scientific and technical progress, intensifying production and enhancing its efficiency, intensifying economy measures and making rational use of production resources, introducing economic and economic-mathematical methods and automated systems in the practice of management and planning, improving the style and methods of leadership on the basis of Leninist principles, and strengthening state and labor discipline and order and organization in production were examined in the course of the studies.

Particular attention was paid during the study process to questions connected with the implementation of measures envisaged in the USSR Food Program. An extensive exchange of experience took place pertaining to the comprehensive development of agriculture and related sectors, the strengthening of inter sector ties, the improvement of the efficiency of management and elimination of bottlenecks in all components of the agroindustrial complex, the introduction of progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration in accordance with end results, and the reduction of losses of agricultural raw materials at all stages of harvesting, procurement, transportation, processing, and delivery of foodstuffs to the consumer.

Students were acquainted with practical work in setting up agroindustrial associations, with progressive experience in the management of the operation of rayon agroindustrial associations, and the application of the collective contract method, visited frontranking agricultural and industrial installations, the chief scientific and computer centers of a number of sectors and historical and cultural sights in the capital and the Moscow region, and met with workers in literature and the arts.

The students were addressed by CPSU Central Committee sections chiefs K.S. Simonov and B.P. Yakovlev; USSR Ministers S.F. Antonov, N.F. Vasilyev, V.M. Kamentsev, N.T. Kozlov, V.P. Lein, V.K. Mesyats, and I.I. Pudkov; N.T. Glushkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Prices; V.I. Lubusov, first deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee Department; P.A. Paskar, first deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; USSR deputy ministers and heads of departments; L. Kapolyi, Hungarian first deputy minister of industry; Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; P.P. Vavilov, president of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences (Vaskhnil), and prominent scientists.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 21-23 MARCH

LD240445 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR arrived by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian from 21-23 March. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

21 Mar

Hundreds of sowing units go into the corn fields of Uzbekistan today to sow 34,000 hectares. This year it is planned to produce 1.8 million tons of corn for grain. (0000 GMT)

Winter ploughing has been completed in Kazakhstan. Snow retention work has been carried out on 32 million hectares. (0800 GMT)

Over 2 million hectares of arable land are to be sown with spring crops in Rostov Oblast, which is much more than usual. (1300 GMT)

22 Mar

Private subsidiary plots in Kirgizia are making a considerable contribution to the implementation of the Food Program. There are more than 500,000 of them. Last year the population sold to the state 10,000 tons of meat, 4,000 tons of milk, many eggs, wool, vegetables, and fruit. (1200 GMT)

23 Mar

Mechanizers in Southern districts of Brest Oblast have commenced selective sowing of oats and barley. Belorussian land improvement workers have brought over 1 million hectares of drained marshland in the Polesye Lowland into agricultural usage. (0304 GMT) (0304 GMT)

Sowing of early spring crops has been completed on the first 250,000 hectares in the Kuban. This is 200,000 hectares more than last year. (0304 GMT)

This spring farmers in the Kuban will sow early spring crops, corn, sunflower, sugar beets, rice, and other crops on almost 2 million hectares. (0500 GMT)

Sowing of early spring crops has been completed in Odessa Oblast. Barley, peas, oats, and forage crops have been sown on an area of 400,000 hectares; 100,000 more than originally planned. Sowing of corn, sunflower, and soya will commence at the end of April. (0500 BMT)

As the operational bulletin of the Kazakhstan Ministry of Agriculture reports today, five of the southern oblasts of the republic have already sown 450,000 hectares. This is almost twice as much as last year. (0800 GMT)

Kalmyk farmers today started sowing early grain and fodder crops. They intend to complete sowing of early crops and resow sparse winter crops on a total of 500,000 hectares in 60-70 hours. (1200 GMT)

JANUARY-FEBRUARY LIVESTOCK FIGURES REVIEWED

PM230957 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 12, Mar 83 (Signed to Press 14 Mar 83) p 14

[USSR Central Statistical Administration report: "Livestock Raising on Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes: Statistical Summary"]

[Text] The editorial office has received the USSR Central Statistical Administration's figures on the status of stockraising on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in January-February 1983.

The wintering of livestock is entering the final phase. Most farms, making skillful use of fodder stocks, have increased the output and sale of livestock products to the state. This has been helped greatly by the uninterrupted working of fodder shops, the rational organization of labor, and the prompt summarizing of the results of competition among livestock unit workers. Cited below are the figures for the output and sale of livestock products in the past 2 months.

I. Output of Livestock Products

Indicators	January-February 1983	January-February 1983 as percentage of January-February 1982
Meat production (sale of livestock and poultry for slaughter in live weight) -- thousand tons	2655	104
Of which:		
Cattle	1648	102
Pigs	636	106
Sheep and goats	59	97
Poultry	312	114
Gross milk yield -- thousand tons	7985	111
Average milk yield per cow -- kg	283	111
Hen eggs -- millions	8290	108
Average egg yield of laying hens -- units	34	106

Meat production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, Kirghizia, Tajikistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan, and Estonia increased in January-February in comparison with the same period last year. The greatest increase in meat production in the RSFSR was secured on farms in Murmansk, Novgorod, Pskov, Bryansk, Vladimir, Tula, Kirov, Lipetsk, Tambov, Orenburg, Tomsk, and Kaliningrad Oblasts; the Karelian, Mari, Chuvash, Bashkir, Kalmyk, Udmurt, and Chechen-Ingush ASSRs; and Krasnodarsk and Khabarovsk Krays.

Gross milk yield for the 2 months was 784,000 tons higher than in the same period last year. Dairy farm workers in many republics secured an increase in production (see tabulation). In the RSFSR the greatest increase in milk production was secured by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Leningrad, Vladimir, Ivanovo, Ryazan, Tula, Gorkiy, Kirov, Ulyanovsk, and a number of other oblasts.

Kolkhoz and sovkhoz egg production during the 2 months increased by 593 million in comparison with the same period last year. Farms in all union republics except Uzbekistan increased egg output.

II. Purchases of Livestock Products on Kolkhozes, Sovkhozes, and Other State Farms

Types of Output Purchased	Purchased in January-February 1983	January-February 1983 as percentage of January-February 1982
Livestock and poultry (live weight) -- thousand tons	2584	105

Milk -- thousand tons	6846	115
Eggs -- millions	7958	107

The volume of sales of livestock and poultry to the state by kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other state farms in January and February increased by 118,000 tons in comparison with the first 2 months of 1982. Purchases of this output increased on farms in all union republics except Kazakhstan. The greatest increase in the sale of livestock and poultry was secured by farms in Lithuania, Belorussia, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia, and Armenia. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes sold cattle with an average weight of 396 kg. The average sale weight of pigs was 105 kg.

Purchases of milk and dairy products increased by 907,000 tons. The greatest increase in purchases of this output was achieved on farms in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Moldavia, the RSFSR, and the Ukraine. Milk sales by kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Mari and Chuvash ASSRs, Kaliningrad and Kirov Oblasts, and the Maritime Kray increased considerably.

The sale of eggs to the state increased by 503 million in January and February. Egg purchases increased on farms in all the union republics.

III. Production and Purchase of Livestock Products for the Union Republics

January-February 1983 as percentage of January-February 1982

	Production			Purchases		
	Meat	Milk	Eggs	Livestock & Poultry	Milk	Eggs
USSR	104	111	108	105	115	107
RSFSR	101	113	107	102	117	106
Of Which, The Non-Chernozem Zone	107	120	107	108	126	106
Ukraine	103	111	110	104	115	108
Belorussia	115	102	105	116	104	103
Uzbekistan	104	102	99	109	99.3	100.5
Kazakhstan	99.1	95	104	98	95	103
Georgia	104	100	115	105	100	113
Azerbaijan	103	100.6	113	105	101	110
Lithuania	157	116	110	143	136	109
Moldavia	107	115	118	110	121	117
Latvia	107	122	110	110	160	109
Kirghizia	101	96	118	102	94	110

Tadjikistan	126	100.6	106	107	102	102
Armenia	103	101	110	111	102	112
Turkmenistan	103	98	124	107	104	116
Estonia	111	125	102	110	138	104

In addition, 77,000 tons of milk and 84,000 tons of livestock were purchased from the population's personal plots by procurement organizations in the 2-month period.

IV. Head of Livestock

On 1 March 1983 kolkhozes and sovkhozes had 91.6 million head of cattle, which is 1 million more than at the same date last year. The number of cows was 29.6 million. The pig herd was 56.8 million, or an increase of 2.3 million. Sheep and goats numbered 123 million. The number of birds was 704 million, or an increase of 34 million.

The number of cattle increased on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in all the union republics except Georgia and Kirghizia. A considerable reduction in the cattle herd occurred on farms in Kostroma, Lipetsk, Novosibirsk, Omsk, and Chita Oblasts and the Iuva ASSR.

The pig herd increased on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in all the union republics except Kirghizia. In the RSFSR there was an increase in the pig herd on many farms in Vologda, Murmansk, Ivanovo, Orel, Ryazan, Kirov, Lipetsk, and other oblasts and the Karelian, Mari, Mordovian, Chuvash, Bashkir, North Osetian, Dagestan, Udmurt, and Tuva ASSRs.

The number of sheep and goats increased on farms in the Ukraine, Lithuania, and Latvia alone. In the RSFSR there was a considerable fall in the sheep and goat herds on farms in Vologda, Novgorod, Kostroma, Perm, Kemerovo, and Kaliningrad Oblasts.

In comparison with the same time last year there were more birds in all the union republics except Uzbekistan.

Leading kolkhozes and sovkhozes, making use of available reserves, are not only increasing the production of meat, milk, and other products but are also taking care to reduce prime costs. They are achieving this thanks to well-informed feed rations and the application of progressive techniques of livestock upkeep. It is important to disseminate the pacemakers' experience on a broader scale and, on this basis, to obtain more livestock unit output.

APN INTERVIEWS USSR EXPERT ON FOOD PROGRAM

AU231305 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 22 Mar 83 p 6

[Interview given by Anatoliy Tiutiunnikov, corresponding member of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences in the USSR, to APN reporter Emma Vershinina: "USSR's Food Program; Truth and Fabrications"; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] To this very day, diverse fabrications about the adoption of the Food Program by the USSR in May 1982 -- the program is planned for up to 1990 -- are repeatedly appearing in the Western press. These fabrications insist on such motives for the program as the need of "urgent measures" for saving the USSR's agriculture, for "liquidating hunger" and so forth...

[Answer] The tendentious nature of such statements is obvious to every person who is at least slightly familiar with the life of the Soviet people, with the history of our country, with our economic practice. Instead of senselessly attacking the largest project of the last few years, which stimulates the agricultural sector of Soviet agriculture, I would suggest recalling that the Soviet Union has not only been capable of fully resolving the food problem in a short time, but also of strikingly improving the structure of the population's nourishment. In 1911 a total of 30 million people were starving in Russia, that is every fifth person in the country. Today nobody can talk of starving in our country.

The agricultural production in the USSR as a whole has developed far speedier than was prophesied, for instance, by the American experts. During the last 25 years the annual growth rate amounted to approximately 3.4 percent. Still more important, this rate surpassed, and is still surpassing, the rate of the population's growth. In consequence, food consumption in the Soviet Union has doubled since 1951. At the same time the state retail prices of basic foodstuffs have remained practially unchanged these last 20 years; due to this fact, the quality of nourishment in all strata of the population has substantially improved. Actually, in the period since 1965 the Soviet citizens' real incomes have more than doubled.

The high requirements placed on the quality of nourishment can be explained by the growing prosperity of our people. This is a natural and progressive process. In this way the Food Program is primarily aimed at achieving a rapid production growth and at ensuring high-calorie foodstuffs for the population. According to the FAO's official report, every USSR citizen daily consumes 3,443 calories; the figure for the United States is 3,539. The U.S. consumption structure contains a high share of food of animal origin; in our country it is of plant origin. The key task, the most important task connected with further improving the structure of the Soviet people's nourishment is to raise the productivity of animal production. As envisaged by the program, this problem is being resolved within the framework of a uniform complex of measures which are counting on an overall growth of agricultural production, a close cooperation of all links of the agricultural-industrial complex and a further improvement of socio-economic conditions of life in the rural areas.

[Question] How do you assess the current task of the agricultural sector in the country's economy?

[Answer] The agricultural sector is of enormous significance for the Soviet Union's economy. It delivers its production to about 60 national branches of the economy and it acquires all it needs from about 80 other branches.

The agricultural-industrial complex -- the APK, which means the circle of branches linked with agriculture -- embraces more than one-third of the country's basic production means and almost half the employees in the sphere of material production. The APK is yielding 46 percent of overproduction [nadprodukt]. If the efficiency in this sector is improved, the results will be reflected in the overall growth of the country's economy. This is most important, especially in the present situation when the intensification of our economy is becoming the pillar of economic policy.

[Question] According to the Food Program, one should carry out a certain number of measures to stimulate the development of scientific research as well as speed up the implementation of scientific knowledge in the production of individual APK branches. What do these measures specifically consist of?

[Answer] We have worked out many comprehensive target programs, appointed specific people to implement them and formulated specific tasks. One of these programs is, for instance, the increased production of animal produce on an industrial basis.

According to this program, the scientists are breeding new kinds, types, lines and crossbreeds of animals and poultry.

One must prepare 17 new technological production processes for animal produce, 7 of which must be introduced into the kolkhoz practice and in state farms by 1985.

In milk production, herds with an annual milk yield of 5,000 kg and more per cow, with a fat content of 3.8-4.2 percent and an albumen content of 3.3-3.4 percent are being set up. The use of new technologies by milk farms will make it possible to cut down the fodder costs to 0.8 quintals of fodder units per quintal of milk (instead of 1.4 quintals in sovkhozes during the preceding 5-year plan). The new technologies will enable us to increase the weight of animals set apart for fattening to 550-600 kg at the age of 15-16 months.

The program of developing and consolidating the fodder basis envisages an expansion of new high-yield kinds of fodder cultures, as well as progressive, comprehensively mechanized technological processes in the production, processing, preparation and storing of fodder. Considerable progress is planned for other branches of the agricultural sector, too.

[Question] As you said, the typical thing for the Soviet Union is the rate of growth in food production. Will this tendency also be maintained in the next few years?

[Answer] During the last 15 months, the per capita consumption of meat and meat products increased in the USSR 42 percent; the figure for milk and dairy products 25 percent, for eggs almost 100 percent. By 1990 we must achieve almost 70 kg in the average meat consumption (which is a 22.8-percent increase; the figure for milk and dairy products should be 330-340 kg (a 12-percent increase). According to the current prognoses, by the end of the century the population should increase about 11 percent, reaching 300 million. In this way the tendency of food production to outdistance it will be maintained.

However, it will not be easy to achieve the set indexes, above all because of the complicated natural and weather conditions. The potential biological possibilities of agricultural soil in the USSR are 2.4 times lower than in the United States; 2.25 times lower than in France; 1.7 times lower than in the FRG; and 1.5 times lower than in Britain. About 75 percent of cereals -- the most significant crops in the Soviet Union -- are acquired by the country in areas that are systematically suffering from drought. In the United States, for instance, only 1 percent of pastures are situated in the agricultural risk zone.

In this way, the production of all agricultural produce in the USSR requires to date more work and means (approximately 3-5 times more) than for instance in the United States (and in wheat it requires three times as much). The fulfillment of the Food Program will help reduce these costs and simultaneously increase production.

AGRICULTURAL TU PLENUM DISCUSSES 'TEAM CONTRACT'

PM231339 Moscow TRUD in Russian 19 Mar 83 p 1

[Yu. Popov "Notes from Agricultural Workers Trade Union Central Committee Plenum": "Yields -- A Weighty Argument"]

[Text] An Agricultural Workers Trade Union Central Committee plenum held recently in Moscow discussed the question of the participation of trade union organizations in further developing and improving the efficiency of the team form for organizing and providing incentives for labor on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and at other agricultural enterprises in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum. Reports were delivered by A.A. Pomortsev, USSR deputy minister of agriculture, and I.F. Shkuratov, chairman of the Trade Union's Central Committee. AUCCTU Secretary S.V. Kozlov also addressed the plenum. Taking part in the plenum's work were N.M. Tishchenko, chief of a CPSU Central Committee sector, and leaders from a number of ministries and departments.

The further development of the agroindustrial complex and of its central sector, agriculture, requires a serious improvement in the organization of production. The key to the solution of this problem, as was stressed at the recent session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, lies in the speediest introduction of financial autonomy on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and enhanced responsibility on the part of cadres for the fuller utilization of internal reserves and the strengthening of plan, state, and labor discipline. The collective contract is an effective means of attaining these targets.

Last year was complicated for Kazakhstan's farmers. And under these conditions -- hard, in the words of N.A. Kharchenko, link leader at the 60-Letiya SSR sovkhoz in Kustanay oblast's Fedorovskiy Rayon -- the collective, working on financial autonomy principles, harvested 23.6 quintals of grain per hectare. This is a good yield for the area. Labor productivity in the link was three times that of the sovkhoz as a whole. Expenses were sharply reduced: The cost of 1 quintal of grain was R3.4, which is R2 cheaper than the sovkhoz cost; the machine operators managed to save 5 tons of diesel fuel. The final average wage was almost double that of the other machine operator colleagues: R450 per month. Most convincing arguments in favor of contracts and financial autonomy:

Quite a few impressive figures of this kind were cited. But while citing them, the speakers immediately asked: Why is it that this method, having much to recommend it and making it possible to successfully combine the interests of each working person and of the entire farm, has not been applied much more widely?

The Kalinin Kolkhoz in Zaoprozhye Oblast's Berdyanskiy Rayon has transferred all its links on to financial autonomy, and TRUD has repeatedly written of the successes of this collective. In Belgorod Oblast contract teams and links are now cultivating one-third of the fields and are producing 20-30 percent higher yields than the rayon averages. Good experience of work under contract has been accumulated on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Volgograd, Saratov, Nikolayev and Surkhan-Darya oblasts. In many places, on the other hand, only occasional units are working under the new system, while the remainder are scrutinizing and having doubts although the experience is obvious and there is no shortage of recommendations. As A.A. Pomortsev, USSR deputy minister of agriculture, noted in his report, only 10 percent of agricultural teams and links are categorized as contractual today. Many of them are disbanded within the year, never getting the taste for the work, which is geared to the end result.

And really, it is as if some kind of reaction of detachment [ottorzheniye] is taking place. No sooner is a contract concluded with the team, no sooner has it started its work than the farm leaders start to take away from it either personnel or equipment, citing imperative production needs, as justification. The other thing that happens is that the team has completed its work, the harvest is good, savings have been achieved, but when it comes to the distribution of incentives, the administration takes the entire matter in its own hands without consultation with the KTU [expansion unknown], the team council or the trade union group. Of course the result will be a painful conflict, after which people cannot be lured into financial autonomy for love or money.

And how about the paradoxes of planning which starts not in the field, not with the people who know about it, but from behind an office desk and with an incessant urge to attract attention with indicators? Latvia's Yelgavskiy Rayon was handed down its target for the current year: to produce 30 quintals of grain per hectare. From the rayon the round figure made its way into kolkhoz and sovkhoz plans and it was allocated among the teams. As it happens, they have never harvested more than 23 quintals on average. And yet the incentives depend on the set figure. Who on earth would want to conclude a contract on such unrealistic terms?

Running like a rusty wire through all these reasons, in all their variety, is one thing: formalism.

People must be educated in the correct understanding of the collective contract's essence. This means team members themselves, farm leaders and mid-level experts. They must be educated not by words but by well organized work. "We live to proclaim that the graingrower is the master of the land. But the sense of being master must be supported by real financial autonomy. Economics, when its laws are obeyed, is an excellent educator." It is difficult not to agree with A.G. Bandurin, director of the Pozdeyevskiy Sovkhoz in Rostov Oblast's Millerovskiy Rayon.

Of course, the really existing complications cannot be discounted. One of the completely real contraditions was pointed out by Yu.T. Buzilov, director of the All-Russian Scientific Research Institute for Agricultural Economics, Labor, and Management. The contract teams must be permanent and stable; only then will their collective spirit emerge. They must carry out a large proportion of the work through their own efforts. At the same time, however, farms today make wide ust of temporary machine operator formations at sowing and harvesting times so as to accelerate work and maximize machine utilization. How can these methods be combined? This is a problem. During last year's harvest time, a TRUD spot-check team encountered the following conflict in Stavropol Kray: A link working on a "nonregulated" basis did not release additional combines for the ripe field, although the weather required that the grain be gathered as soon as possible and that the entire machine pool of the farm be concentrated there. An improvised solution to the situation was found, but it would be better if such contradictions were eliminated by economic means with the help of well-established internal financial autonomy.

The introduction of collective contracts will require a serious restructuring of labor organization, the principles governing incentives and the organization of competition. All this, from whichever viewpoint it is examined, applies to the activity of trade union organizations. It is necessary to enhance substantially their role in the implementation of the new methods. In order to advocate it really efficiently in the interests of production and of each workers, trade union activists must be really deeply aware of the essence of the matter. The Central Committee of the Agricultural Workers Trade Union, as I.F. Shkuratov noted in his report, has prepared and disseminated recommendations for the participation of trade union organization in the introduction of the collective contract system. Meetings to exchange experiences are being organized between team leaders, economists, farm leaders, and the trade union aktiv. Seminars are being held at the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements. There are courses for training trade union workers in the fundamentals of financial autonomy. All this work must be even more active.

The team contract method will help significantly in speeding up the realization of the Food Program. All trade union components, starting with trade union groups, must now be geared completely toward it, oppose formalism and a stereotyped approach in this matter, and strive so that people work in contract collectives with real interest and productivity.

COSMOS-1447 LAUNCHED 25 MAR; MISSION DETAILED

LD250843 Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- Another artificial satellite in the Cosmos series, the Cosmos-1447, was launched in the Soviet Union today.

The satellite carries scientific instrumentation designed to carry on space research as well as apparatus to try out a system for determining the location of ships and aircraft in distress.

The satellite was put into an orbit with the following parameters: initial orbital period -- 104.9 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth surface -- 1,025 km, the minmum distance from the earth's surface -- 975 km, and orbital inclination -- 83 degrees.

The satellite carries a radio system for precision measurement of orbital elements and a radio-telemetric system to transmit back to earth the data on the operation of instruments and scientific apparatus.

ASTRON STATION FUNCTIONING ACCORDING TO PROGRAM

LD251026 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] During the first day of its stay in space, the new soviet automatic station Astron has shown that its flight is proceeding entirely in accordance with the program. The station is designed to investigate distant worlds with the aid of two automatically controlled telescopes. French scientists took part in the creation of one of the telescopes. The station is as tall as a three-story building.

ECONOMIC VALUE OF USSR SPACE PROGRAM OUTLINED

PM241135 [Editorial Report] Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 12, March 1983, signed to press 14 March, carries on page 2 a 3,600-word "review" entitled "Space Aids the National Economy" prepared by the section on problems of the atmosphere and the world's oceans of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. The review puts the contribution of space research to the national economy at R500-600 million annually and outlines areas in which it is most effective. The review outlines the results of cooperation with other countries in the Intercosmos program and expresses the view that those results will "strengthen the might" of the USSR and other socialist community countries.